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FIFTY YEARS
OF THE
Young Men's Christian Association
OF BUFFALO, N. Y.



Class _____

Book _____

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NEW CENTRAL BUILDING,
Mohawk, Genesee, and Franklin streets.
Estimated cost of site, building, and furnishings, \$400,000.

FIFTY YEARS
OF THE
Young Men's Christian Association
of Buffalo.

A HISTORY

BY

FRANK E. SICKELS.



BUFFALO, N. Y.:
PUBLISHED BY THE ASSOCIATION.
1902.

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PREFATORY NOTE.

The writer of this little book has had material abundant enough and interesting enough to make one many times its size ; the task of selection has been difficult, but imperative. If any of our older members have given years of time and effort to some good work and find it mentioned in these pages only by a phrase, or not at all, may we not ask them to accept this statement as the explanation? The story of such an organization is made up of many details ; in telling it concisely all details must be grouped and many omitted. Again, it should be noted that personal mention has been largely avoided, except where the true telling of the story has demanded it ; there will be found very little characterization of volunteer work or of individual service, and no biography. We feel that we are thus upon safer ground and surer of a short story. A full list of officers and directors will be found in the appendix.

Special and grateful mention ought to be made of the very valuable and efficient service which Mr. A. H. Whitford has rendered in the collecting of material and the making of helpful suggestion ; he is not, however, responsible for any opinion expressed, nor is any other person or body. For all such, the writer is alone responsible.

Gift

Edward M. Williams

Nov. 23, 1940

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CHAPTER I.

PERIOD OF BEGINNINGS.

THE Young Men's Christian Association is a development ; not the product of one great creative stroke. It came in the fullness of its time, when world conditions demanded its existence ; it has grown and developed precisely as times, needs, environments, have required, shaping itself to meet new and diverse conditions with marvellous adaptability and accomplishing its purposes with steady, practical wisdom and scientific precision.

Early in the nineteenth century the iron hand of the industrial age began to drive men from country to town and there crushed them together into great and congested sections, where the air was both physically and morally unclean. This new urban population was made up largely of young men—the men of to-morrow. If the future of the great city were to be saved for the Master, it became imperative that His followers should do something wise and practical to safeguard, develop, and save these young men. Out of this imperative grew the Young Men's Christian Association.

As all the world knows, God used in the beginnings of this great work a young man twenty-three years of age, son of a gentleman farmer of the south of England, George Williams by name — made Sir George Williams by Queen Victoria, because of his modest but marvelously fruitful effort. Young Williams came to London in 1841 and became a drygoods clerk. He loved God, and because he loved God, he loved his fellow-men ; and because he loved his fellow-men, he had a desire and purpose to help them. God gave him great wisdom, and he started the work upon a foundation, so wisely laid and so strong, that it abides still as the chief corner stone of the great work of to-day. With J. Christopher Smith, he began a series of bedroom prayer meetings among the clerks who slept over the store ; and on June 6, 1844, twelve young men met and formed a permanent organization, which, at Smith's suggestion, they called a "Young

Men's Christian Association." The organization grew in strength and scope in London ; its scheme spread to the continent and there, finding Christian young men already banded together, it stamped its character upon their organizations and brought them into harmony with the London type.

The same centrifugal forces which made the association a necessity in London existed in America in even greater degree. A young New York student in London, named George M. Van Derlip, visited the rooms of the Young Men's Christian Association in that city and, becoming greatly interested, wrote an enthusiastic letter concerning the institution, which, after being pigeonholed for a time, was finally published in the *Watchman and Reflector* of Boston, October 30, 1851. Out of the inspiration of that letter has grown the American work. The Boston Association, under the leadership of Capt. Thomas V. Sullivan, was organized on December 29, 1851, in the chapel of the Old South Meeting House in Spring Lane. Inspired by information coming through entirely different channels, the young men of Montreal had completed the organization of the Montreal Association on December 9, 1851 ; the organizers in each city were in entire ignorance of the proceedings or of the existence of the organizers in the other. Montreal was, therefore, the first on the American continent and Boston the first in the United States ; but because of its adoption of the evangelical test for active membership, because of its zeal in extension work in other cities, and because its constitution served as a model for nearly all associations subsequently organized, Boston is usually regarded as the parent of the American work.

From these small beginnings has grown a great tree of Christian effort, whose branches have overshadowed the entire earth ; a great brotherhood of over six hundred thousand men, bound together by the single tie of Christian love and service, having thousands of organizations, hundreds of buildings, great and small ; spending millions of dollars each year in altruistic work for young men, having armies of enthusiastic volunteer workers and regiments of trained men giving their lives to the work. Ten million dollars were paid in and invested in America alone during the year 1901 ; and while true success is not always expressed in terms of dollars and cents, yet such facts and the extraordinary expansion in all directions imperatively arrest the attention of every thoughtful and candid man, and compel the conviction that here is a work of the Church which God has owned and blessed, and which has become perhaps the greatest and most practical religious development of the age.

After Boston comes Buffalo, both alphabetically and chronologically, in association history.

The Buffalo Association was organized April 26, 1852, not quite four months after that of Boston. There is record of the organization of an association in Worcester, Massachusetts, during these four intervening months, but it was short-lived ; and, therefore, although it cannot perhaps claim second place in date of organization, Buffalo is to-day the second oldest association in the United States and the third oldest on the American Continent. After fifty years of storm and sunshine, it finds itself, in its jubilee year, strong, virile, progressive, full of expansive power and ambition, the fifth association in the world in point of numbers and varied development.

During the first half of the past century, whatever its own citizens may have thought of her, it is certain that so much of the world as knew of her existence considered Buffalo a slow and sleepy town. She had suffered severely in the stormy financial days of the later thirties ; her citizens were conservative and apparently not possessed of great civic ambition. During the forties, however, there appeared signs of an awakening, and when 1852 came the town appeared to be shaking off its lethargy and its citizens, in some dim way, at least, coming to a realization of Buffalo's high destiny among American cities. In 1850 the population of the city was 42,261, and in 1855 it was 74,219 ; a gain of 31,958, or 75 per cent. in five years — a very remarkable growth. The Board of Trade had been organized in 1844 ; the system of city water supply had been established in 1850 ; railroad facilities were being greatly increased and improved ; and the commerce of the port was advancing with great rapidity. Banks are a sure indication of business growth, and this was a period of bank beginnings ; in the period between 1850 and 1856 there were founded the Marine Bank, White's Bank, the Manufacturers and Traders, the Western Savings Bank, and the Erie County Savings Bank ; the Farmers and Mechanics Bank was removed here from Batavia, and the Buffalo Savings Bank erected a fine new building.

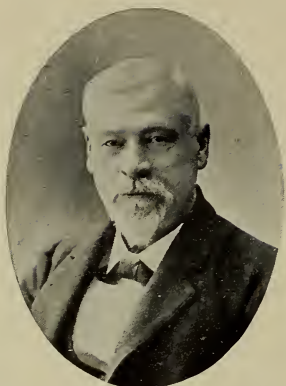
In the midst of this commercial and material prosperity, the people were not unmindful of the city's intellectual interests, for the University of Buffalo began its honorable career in 1846 and was greatly strengthened and developed during the fifties ; that the people were mindful also of things moral and spiritual, the founding and early success of the Young Men's Christian Association furnishes indisputable evidence.



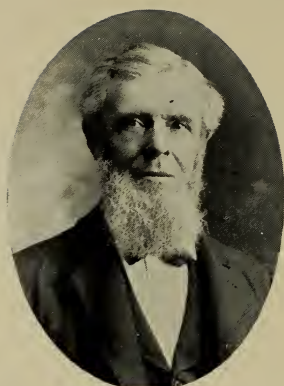
GEORGE W. PERKINS,
Founder of the Association.
Born December 25, 1831. Died March 29, 1886.

A growing population brought with it the usual influx of young men, fresh from farm and village, the backbone of the nation, but woefully open to the seductive and evil influences of a great and wicked city. One Christian young man, at least, realized this, and, as in the case of George Williams, the realization impelled him to action. This young man was George W. Perkins, a member of the North Presbyterian Church, to whom belongs the credit for first conceiving the idea of organizing the Young Men's Christian Association of Buffalo. He went to the office of the *Commercial Advertiser*, where Jesse Clement, a deacon in the Niagara Square Baptist Church, was employed, and submitted the scheme to him. Mr. Clement heartily approved, and, after talking the matter over thoroughly, he suggested that Mr. Perkins, who was the younger of the two, should take it up actively and should first see Isaac C. Tryon about it. This Mr. Perkins did. Mr. Tryon, who was, at that time, a clerk in a merchant tailor's shop, gave cordial assent; others were seen with like result, and finally six men met after business hours in a room in the old Concert Hall block. These six men were George W. Perkins, Jesse Clement, Isaac C. Tryon, Jabez Loton, Cyrus K. Remington, and P. J. Ferris; three of these men are still living; Mr. Remington, Mr. Perkins, and Mr. Clement have been called home. The result was a decision to call a meeting for the purpose of organizing a Young Men's Christian Association. Public notice was therefore given of such a meeting to be held in the Niagara Street Methodist Church, on April 19, 1852; in what manner this "public notice" was given neither the record nor the memory of survivors reveals. About ten men came to this meeting. This was too few for the beginning of what all felt to be a great work, and so an adjournment was had to Wednesday evening, April 26, 1852. At this time, in the old Pearl Street Methodist Church, now known as the Asbury M. E. Church, there gathered, up in the organ loft, a small company of earnest young men, who organized the Young Men's Christian Association of Buffalo. What was done can be best told in the language of the official record.

"In accordance with a notice given, a number of young men of the Evangelical churches of the City of Buffalo held a meeting in the Pearl Street Methodist Church, on Wednesday evening, April 26, 1852, for the purpose of forming an association for the improvement of the spiritual and mental condition of young men, when, on motion, Mr. Thos. B. Bain was appointed Chairman and C. K. Remington Secretary. The constitution of the Young Men's Christian Association of Boston was read and, on motion, adopted. On motion, the Secretary was directed to give notice



PETER J. FERRIS.



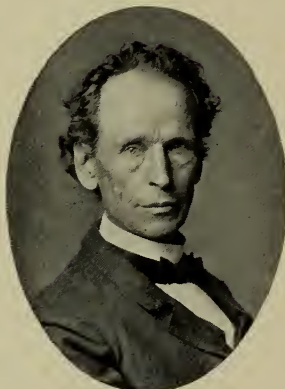
JABEZ LOTON.



REV. ISAAC C. TRYON,
First President.



JAMES N. PINNER.



AMOS SANGSTER.

CHARTER MEMBERS WHO ARE NOW LIVING.

to all Evangelical churches of the time and place of our next meeting. On motion, the Secretary was directed to procure a place for our next meeting. On motion, all who approved of the Constitution gave their names to the Secretary. On motion, proceeded to elect "pro tem" until the annual meeting in May, a President, Vice Do., Recording Sec., Corresponding Sec., and Treasurer. The following were elected: President, Isaac C. Tryon; Vice Prest., Thos. B. Bain; Rec. Sec., C. K. Remington; Cor. Sec., Geo. W. Perkins; Tres., Geo. Relph. On motion, a committee of 4 was appointed to procure someone to lecture on Sunday evening, stating the objects of the association — committee, Mrss. Tryon, Loton, Ball, and Thornton. On motion, adjourned until next Monday evening. Meeting closed by prayer. C. K. Remington, Sec."

Following this meeting there appeared in the *Buffalo Christian Advocate*, in its issue of April 29th, the following, which is the first editorial notice of which we know:—

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

We are pleased to be informed that the young men of this city are about to organize an association, the results of which cannot be otherwise than auspicious. We have not the details before us, so as to speak intelligibly of it this week. On Sabbath evening, next, Rev. Mr. Heacock will deliver a sermon, in which he will explain the object and benefits of the association, and on Tuesday next the young men will meet at the Niagara Sq. Baptist Church to complete the organization.

On the following Sabbath evening, in the Lafayette Street Presbyterian Church, the Rev. Grosvenor W. Heacock preached the sermon as announced, and knowing how congenial would be the theme to the preacher, we can be sure it was one of great power and effect, full of the fire and enthusiasm of his vigorous manhood; a sermon, it surely was, which "brought things to pass," and that, in the last analysis, is the only sure test of all oratory.

What followed this first meeting and this sermon can best be told in the language of Mr. Tryon, the first president, who has been for many years an ordained minister, and who, as has been said, is still living. In his speech at the Jubilee dinner in 1894, he said that after the meeting of organization "we went to work, first to get members right and left. People we approached said, 'You are too few in numbers for such a movement; your president is unknown, a new comer here; you had better meet again and gather together a larger number; give us the voice of



ODEON HALL,
Northwest corner Main and Mohawk
streets, 1853-1855.

The First International Convention
convened in these rooms, second floor,
June 7, 1854. The two corners beyond
are the locations of present and new
Central buildings.

KREMLIN HALL,
Southeast corner of Eagle and Pearl
streets, 1855-1859.



OLD COURT HOUSE,
Northwest corner Clinton and Ellicott
streets, 1878-1883.

THREE EARLY HOMES OF THE ASSOCIATION.

someone who is well known in the city.' Perkins said, 'They are talking what is right ; we need another man for president.' So we just voted to step down and out ; we didn't disband."

Thus, in the very infancy of the movement, there appeared that singular lack of self-seeking, that almost perfect self-effacement which has, in so marked a degree, characterized the history of the association everywhere. Mr. Tryon's narrative explains what follows in the official records. On May 1st the association met in the Niagara Square Baptist Church and appointed a Committee on Constitution ; on May 9th, it met in some place unrecorded, rescinded all business transacted at the first meeting, listened to the report of the Committee on Constitution and considered some sections of the new constitution as proposed ; it met again, on June 1st, and adopted more of the new constitution, and, finally, on June 8th, at the First Presbyterian Church, formally adopted the constitution as a whole. At this meeting forty-five men enrolled themselves as members, and as this is the first recorded list of association members it has a certain value and interest ; here is the roll :

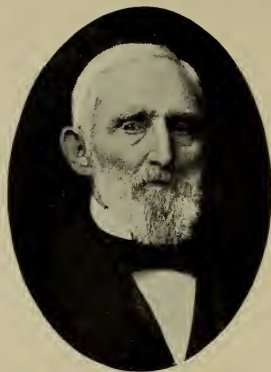
A. R. Wright, O. H. P. Champlin, W. D. Huntly, E. S. Ralph, J. Hall, N. A. Halbert, E. A. Swan, R. V. Andrews, I. C. Tryon, W. Williams, G. W. Wightman, Geo. Relph, Rev. G. W. Heacock, Geo. W. Perkins, C. K. Remington, J. Loton, T. B. Bain, Wm. C. Webster, H. H. Martin, W. M. Cone, M. H. Tryon, C. E. Young, Silas Sweet, J. Chichester, J. Clement, C. P. Sheldon, Thos. Morgan, O. F. Presbrey, P. J. Ferris, James N. Pinner, J. H. Jewett, J. D. Foote, Henry Holbrook, Wm. Davis, L. H. Holbrook, S. Jennings, D. G. Bronson, Amos Sangster, L. D. Norton, Wm. M. Gray, E. A. Shaw, Ira Blood, G. H. Ball, Frederick Gerrig, F. T. Hutchinson.

This was a fine body of men and very representative. It was indicative of that true democracy in Christian service which has been one of the glories of association history ; for the men upon the first list were from many classes and many walks of life—men rich and poor, of high social rank and of no recognized social rank, employers and employees ; simply a band of earnest men, with no thought of distinctions among themselves, with an eye single to the great purpose before them.

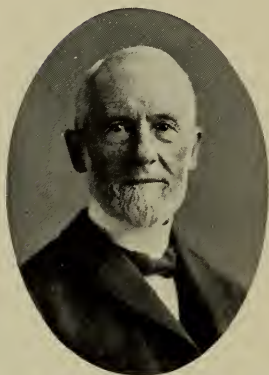
The following officers were elected : President, Norton A. Halbert ; Vice-Presidents, E. A. Swan, O. F. Presbrey, Isaac C. Tryon, O. H. P. Champlin ; Recording Secretary, Geo. W. Perkins ; Corresponding Secretary, W. D. Huntly ; Treasurer, C. K. Remington ; Librarian, H. H. Martin ; Managers, Silas Sweet, D. B. Hull, A. R. Wright, Seth Clark,



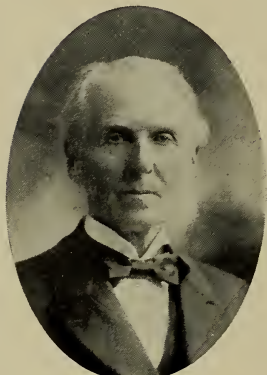
OSCAR COBB.



HON. STEPHEN LOCKWOOD.



H. H. HALE.



HON. N. K. HOPKINS.



E. P. BEALS.



J. F. CHARD.

MEMBERS OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN 1852 TO 1859, WHO ARE STILL LIVING.

Thos. Morgan, C. E. Young, J. Loton, Lorenzo Sweet. T. F. Thornton, Dr. J. S. Hawley, T. B. Bain, and Nelson K. Hopkins were added to the Board of Managers at its first meeting.

This completes the story of the birth of the Buffalo Association, so far as we know it. There remains only to speak of two things: first, the change of name and, second, the purpose of the infant organization.

The name first adopted was that which it now bears, and which has become world-wide in its use — Young Men's Christian Association; the meeting of June 8th changed this to Young Men's Christian Union. The reasons for this are uncertain; diligent questioning of the survivors of those early days has brought to light, first, an apparent lack of all recollection, and then halting explanations so diverse in their character that the conclusion becomes inevitable that the matter was not at the time greatly discussed, nor seriously considered. It seems most probable that the founders had little knowledge of other similar efforts, except what was gathered from the Boston constitution in their possession, were little impressed with the necessity or advantage of uniformity in name among institutions kindred in character, and found the word "Union" more to their liking than the word "Association;" moreover, perhaps, the existence in the city of another organization called the Young Men's Association led them to think that the adoption of the latter word might lead to local confusion. The name of Union was borne for eighteen years, but the organization has always been a part, and an important part as we shall see, in the great brotherhood of "Associations," and the differing name seems to have caused little comment.

The first printed announcement of the Union, issued sometime in the fall of 1852, began as follows: "The Young Men's Christian Union of Buffalo was organized for important purposes. As the country is daily sending her sons of promise to dwell with us, it aims cordially to welcome them upon the threshold of city life to virtuous society; to search out the Christian professor who shall locate here, and introduce him to the church of his choice; to associate pious young men in works of common beneficence; to promote intellectual and religious culture — these are the primary objects of this Association."

The constitution summarized it all in these words, "Its object, the improvement of the intellectual, moral, and religious condition of young men."

CHAPTER II.

PERIOD OF EARLY PROSPERITY.

AFTER this beginning full of enthusiasm and promise, the young organization started upon a career of growth and usefulness, which continued without break until 1857. Then came days of adversity, as we shall see hereafter. Naturally, there was at first some uncertainty as to methods and objectives. One of the active men of those days, when asked recently for some reminiscence, replied, "My chief recollection is of the uncertainty, the groping; we knew we wanted to help young men, but we couldn't determine just how to do it."

The records give evidence of this hesitancy; some queer things were discussed in those days. Among the changes in organization unanimously approved by the Managers was the admission of women to the Union upon the same terms as men; immediately following this recommendation, came an exceedingly gallant resolution, which was in entire seriousness adopted, "That when ladies are proposed for membership at any meeting of the Board, they shall be considered as elected (unless there are objections) without a formal vote." Apparently, the Union did not sympathize with the Board, for we find no recognition of this action in constitutional amendment. Among the vagaries of method proposed, for a long time discussed, and finally tabled, was a proposition to appoint a committee to assist public officials in enforcing the State laws concerning vagrants and truants.

But, after all, these early workers kept clearly in mind the great object of their organization, hewed their way very accurately in the right direction, met with a large degree of success, and increased very rapidly in numbers and public esteem.

The first thing sought was a home. A room, recently vacated by the Young Men's Association, was secured on South Division Street, between Main and Washington streets, where Ellicott Square now stands. This

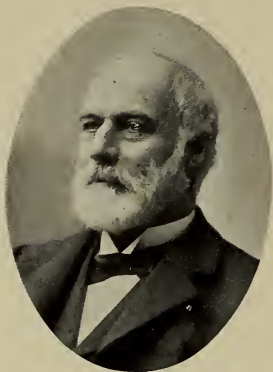
room was opened August 25, 1852 ; and on the following day *The Buffalo Christian Advocate* published the following notice :

BUFFALO YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN UNION.

The reading room of this Association was opened to the public last evening. It is on South Division Street near Main, being the room formerly occupied by the lecture room of the Young Men's Association. It has been fitted up in a good style and provided with a large number of religious papers and reviews of various evangelical denominations in the country. The object is not only worthy of the support of every Christian but of every good citizen. All interested in the success of the enterprise are invited to call at the rooms.

This sounds quite inviting, but those who remember this room say it was bare and not very attractive ; and yet it was largely patronized by the young men whom the Union was seeking to reach. At this time the Union had 127 members ; by March of the following year it had increased to 381 and the need of better and larger rooms was felt. Accordingly, rooms were secured in what was called the Odeon Hall block, still standing at the northwest corner of Main and Mohawk streets, the Union making a five years' lease at an annual rental of \$162.50. These rooms were quite handsomely fitted up and were opened at a special meeting of the Union on May 10, 1853. Here the Union continued to grow, having in March, 1854, 628 members, and in 1855, 777 members. In his annual report of that year President Halbert said : "Our history has shown the absolute necessity of central and pleasant rooms. This is indispensable. Appreciating this fact, several gentlemen proposed to us last spring to secure rooms in Kremlin Hall. To meet our increased expenses a fund of \$4,000 or \$5,000 was deemed necessary. A subscription was opened and \$3,000 was secured, with the assurance that it would be increased to at least \$4,000. Under these circumstances, the rooms were leased for five years, with the privilege of five more, at an annual rent of \$1,000. The hall has been appropriately furnished and will seat about one thousand persons. The Union will occupy it for its lectures, and rent it for concerts and other consistent purposes. * * * The furnishing of the hall and rooms will require, when completed, an expenditure of some \$1,000." After removing to Kremlin Hall the membership increased to 867 in 1856, and dropped to 846 in 1857.

The Kremlin Hall building still stands at the junction of Eagle, Pearl, and Niagara streets. The fourth floor contained a large hall, which was handsomely furnished by the Union. The third floor, with the excep-



H. G. TROUT.



J. U. WAYLAND.



HON. W. P. LETCHWORTH.



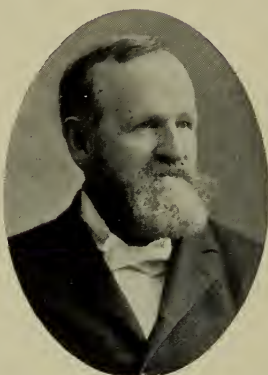
HON. J. O. PUTNAM.



HON. L. L. LEWIS.



JOHN OTTO.



LUCIAN HAWLEY.



W. L. DOYLE.

MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION IN 1852 TO 1859, WHO ARE STILL LIVING.

tion of two rooms in the northwest corner, was also rented and used for reading rooms, library, and offices ; all the rooms were well furnished and equipped, and the entire arrangement was convenient and pretentious to a degree beyond the fondest expectations of these same young men three years before. The hall was dedicated on the evening of Monday, June 25, 1855, at a public meeting of the Union ; Rev. A. T. Chester, D. D., delivered the address and a dedication hymn was sung, the words of which had been written by Mr. Jesse Clement, an officer of the Union.

“Gathered for this dedication,
Lord, for help we look to Thee,
Bend from Thine exalted station,
While we humbly bow the knee,
Ever hallowed, ever hallowed,
Be this hall, O God, to Thee.
* * * * *
Since our hearts are prone to falter,
While the forms of error tower,
Lord, we rear to truth an altar,
Where young manhood’s every power,
Often quickened, often quickened,
Firm may stand in peril’s hour.”

At the start, the Young Men’s Christian Union was purely a movement of volunteer workers, and the volunteer is still the fundamental element in the organization ; but it was early found necessary and advantageous to employ and pay men, in order that they might give all or part of their time exclusively to the work. In July, 1853, is found the first record of paid service ; a “boy,” whose name nowhere appears upon the records, was voted \$100 for “past services” in caring for the room, papers, and books. This boy was George M. Standish, who is remembered in Buffalo because of the beautiful voice which he had even then developed, and which has since caused him to make Italy his home and music his profession ; he constituted the beginning of the system of paid secretaries, which has since grown to such large proportions, and which to-day plays so important a part in the work of the association. We next find that E. W. Walton was voted the modest sum of \$8.00, as librarian, in May, 1854, and during this same year older members recollect that a brother of George W. Perkins also acted in that capacity ; during the year 1855, Z. Clark was employed as librarian, and at some time during this same year D. Blood was also employed ; in April, 1856, J. Hill entered

the Union's employ at a salary of \$29.17 per month ; he was followed in October of the same year by David Gray, author, poet, editor, who began his service at the same modest salary. For over three years, Mr. Gray continued as the executive officer of the Union, and so successful and vigorous was his conduct of the office, and so attractive and lovable was the man himself, that the memory of those days stands out clearly in the minds of all the men then active in the work as something very important and very delightful. "The time when David Gray was librarian" is the one thing that all remember and love to talk about. The Kremlin Hall rooms were bright and cozy of themselves, a very attractive place for young men to gather ; and the rare personality of young Gray gave them an added charm and did much to make them the familiar rallying place for many of Buffalo's choicest young men. To a Buffalo reader, David Gray needs no introduction, and his reputation has become national. In the library of the Union, in the old Kremlin Hall, he began his literary career. At that time there were few buildings between the hall and the river ; the view from the windows of the old library was nearly unobstructed and swept out over the great lake and north to where the mighty Niagara begins. There was much in the outlook and the occasional quiet of the library to inspire the spirit of the poet, and it is not strange that some things that will be remembered were written there. Sitting at an open window, on a summer's night, he listened to the sounds from "Out on the dim and desolate lake,"

"Sadly, solemnly, tolling-tolling,
Dying away on the ghostly air,"

and wrote his mournful bit of revery called "The Fog Bell at Night ;" other sparks of his growing poetic genius were struck out from this library room and the forging of a poet was fairly begun.

To the student and lover of association methods, it is very interesting to watch the first unfoldings and developments in the methods of this great work for young men, which has since grown to such marvelous proportions.

The first clear objective in the minds of the organizers was to provide a room where young men, particularly strangers and new comers in the city, could congregate and find congenial companionship in a pure atmosphere ; to make this room attractive, it must be stocked with reading matter ; and so the first and most important committee was that on "Library and Rooms." The first reports show a goodly supply of peri-

odicals, very largely religious in their character, although the proportion of secular publications seemed to increase steadily from year to year. On the whole, a careful examination of the lists shows that the early reading room was wisely and generously stocked with wholesome, current literature.

The formation of a library was very close to the hearts of the early workers ; perhaps there was nothing about which they thought and for which they labored so earnestly as this. They laid the foundation by giving books themselves and begging them from their friends. An appropriation for new books was made each year and gifts earnestly invited and ingeniously urged. The original idea was a "religious library," and we fear the first catalogues would not be found very alluring to the average young man of to-day. The purpose gradually widened, however, and in its second annual report the Library Committee said : "It is the grand object of the Union to possess and hold, for the benefit of its members, a library unexceptionable in its character, composed of works by the best authors, in every branch of science, history, biography, travel, and general literature." At the end of the year 1857 there were 1,250 volumes in the library ; during that year 1,220 volumes were drawn for use — 25 per cent. religious, 25 per cent. historical, and 50 per cent. miscellaneous literature.

That some members did not fail to keep the primary object in view is shown by this extract from the sixth annual report of the Library Committee, made by Mr. E. S. Hawley, which seems to voice a quiet protest against the growing tendency to seek other and less appropriate objects than those which inspired the founding of the Union ; he said, speaking of "a center and place of resort for young men," "We apprehend this to be the grand, if not the only, aim of the Union, and that this may be above all other ends subserved, we hope earnestly that the library and reading rooms may be considered first in all schemes of addition and improvement."

Among the names of the men who did hard and noble work on the Library and Rooms Committee in those early days, we find these which have since become well known in Buffalo : O. H. P. Champlin, Geo. W. Perkins, S. S. Guthrie, E. P. Beals, H. H. Martin, Dr. John D. Hill, Elias S. Hawley, George H. Selkirk, Henry H. Otis.

The glory of those old days, however, clusters around the work of the Lecture Committee. Those were the days of lectures and lecturers, and great audiences gathered to hear and applaud with genuine appreciation ;



PASCAL P. PRATT,
President Board of Trustees.

and perhaps the greatest courses ever given in Buffalo were those under the auspices of the Union during the fifties.

After a modest beginning with a course by local clergymen the first year, the Union struck boldly out and furnished the very best that could be had in all the country. We would like to give these courses in full, for they were worthy to be recorded here, but will content ourselves with the list of subjects for the second year's course, which illustrates the character of the addresses, and with the list of speakers in 1855, when, perhaps, the high-water mark was reached. How attractive would this literary menu be to the average twentieth century young man? Read it: "Christianity as a Religious System;" "The Relation of the Divine Government to the Existence of Moral Evil;" "The Antagonism of Christianity;" "The Lenity of the Human Race;" "Progress and Providence;" "Probable Destiny of the African Race." These topics drew crowded houses of men and women, young and old, and the course was a great success.

The course for the season of 1855-6 was given in Kremlin Hall and included the following speakers: Rev. Henry Ward Beecher (two lectures), Dr. Joseph Cummings, afterwards president of Wesleyan University, Dr. Samuel H. Cox (two lectures), Prof. Charles Henry Hitchcock (four lectures), Prof. Plummer, Dr. Matthew Simpson, Bishop of the Methodist Church, Rev. H. K. Green, President Barnas Sears of Brown University, Prof. Dwight, Dr. Leonard Bacon, President Martin B. Anderson of Rochester University, Dr. George W. Bethune (two lectures), Dr. R. S. Storrs. This course, which was remarkable in every way, was immensely successful and profitable. Mr. Beecher opened the course, and concerning this lecture the *Christian Advocate*, in its issue of November 1, 1855, says:

On Thursday evening last, the lecture season of the Union of this city was opened. If the commencement was the indication of what the future will be, then one of the most popular and lucrative seasons ever anticipated is before us. Two thousand persons at one lecture was an occasion never before witnessed among us. We have seen large audiences before on similar occasions, but never one so large and intelligent. We are gratified at such favorable circumstances, because it will cheer the Association, which deserves well of the public. The best lecturers in the country have been engaged for the season.

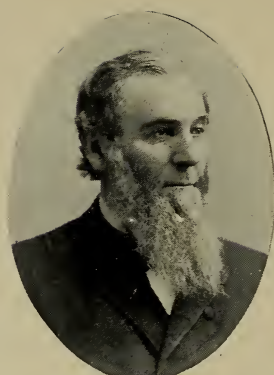
Aside from these formal courses, the Lecture Committee provided courses of "Studies in Sacred History," and took charge of a monthly meeting of the Union for literary exercises; we note that the first two



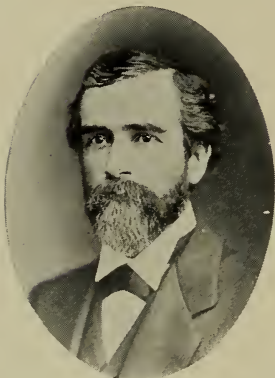
JESSE CLEMENT,
1855.



S. S. GUTHRIE,
1856.



DR. J. D. HILL,
1859-62.



FREDERICK GRIDLEY,
1863.



SETH CLARK,
1865-68.



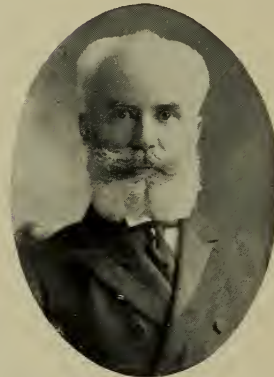
E. L. HEDSTROM,
1871-76.



EMMOR HAINES,
1876.



N. G. BENEDICT,
1880-85.



W. H. GRATWICK,
1887-89.

PRESIDENTS OF THE ASSOCIATION, DECEASED.

topics discussed at these meetings were the "Universality of the Deluge" and the "Plenary Inspiration of the Scriptures."

Many well-known names are found upon the Lecture Committee lists during these years: O. F. Presbrey, J. S. Hawley, Nelson K. Hopkins, Stephen Lockwood, O. H. P. Champlin, Sherman S. Rogers, and Henry H. Hale.

The first mention of a prayer meeting is found in the third annual report, where the Committee on Religious Exercises records the fact that, in conformity with the resolution adopted at the first International Convention of Young Men's Christian Associations, a prayer meeting had been held on the second Sabbath of each month, but had not been largely attended, though "full of the right spirit." These meetings increased in attendance very rapidly; soon a quarterly "missionary concert" came to be held in connection with them, and later several series of Sunday night sermons by local pastors were added.

In 1854, a Committee on Boarding Houses and Employment was appointed and thereafter was continued, doing the usual and familiar work of such a committee with varying success.

Thus far the work of the early association was strictly within the lines indicated by the purposes of its foundation; but to these they soon came to add other things, for which we find it hard in these later days to find any place in the proper sphere of association work. However admirable and fruitful they may have been, they were not proper activities for a Young Men's Christian Association; distributing tracts miscellaneously by means of women colporteurs and conducting Sunday Schools for boys and girls are excellent things to do, but it was not for such purposes that the association was organized.

The work of "Bible and Tract Distribution" was undertaken in 1853; the city was thoroughly canvassed and divided into thirteen general districts; a large number of helpers, "the majority of them ladies," was secured and the work done from year to year very thoroughly and systematically. Hundreds of bibles and thousands of tracts were distributed; the churches furnished the bibles, the American Tract Society most of the tracts.

In the spring of 1855, the Sunday School Association surrendered to the Union its entire work and all its books and interests; this transferred to the Union the care of a number of mission Sunday Schools, having some 1,100 scholars in average attendance. The Union thereupon appointed a Committee on Mission Sunday Schools, established teachers'



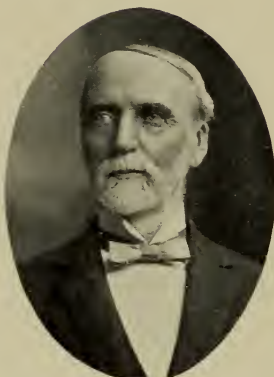
REV. EDW. BRISTOL,
1862.



W. W. BROWN,
1877.



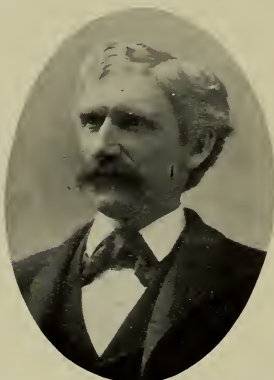
G. N. PIERCE,
1878.



C. B. ARMSTRONG,
1879.



S. E. ADAMS,
1885-87.



W. H. JOHNSON,
1892-95.



H. D. BLAKESLEE,
1895-97.

SOME PRESIDENTS OF THE ASSOCIATION WHO ARE STILL LIVING.

bible classes, and started vigorously upon a Sunday School work, which it developed greatly during the sixties. We shall refer to these schools more fully in the next chapter.

During this early period the finances of the association seem always to have been in a healthy condition, though the reports of various committees show that many times the zealous ambition of the young men to expand was checked and defeated by lack of money. It is interesting to note that the annual membership fee was \$1.00 and a life membership cost \$20.00.

We have called this a period of success ; the records evidence this, but here are the verdicts of two contemporaries, one a secular newspaper and the other a religious journal. The *Commercial* says editorially, on March 27, 1856 :

The gentlemen composing the Union have exhibited a deal of energy and enterprise since the organization of the society about four years ago. After the struggles incident at the foundation of such an association and that attended its growth for a year or more, they have now attained a position surpassed by none. They have a fine hall, an excellent library, and a reading room where the leading religious papers of the United States can be found, and, withal, a treasury, replete with soundness.

The Christian Advocate says, also editorially, July 3, 1856 :

This is another of the leading associations of this city. Perhaps it should be placed at the head of all, in view of the moral and religious influence which it exerts, with the permanency of results anticipated.

No sketch of this period would be complete without reference to the first International Convention of Young Men's Christian Associations, which was held in Buffalo on June 7 and 8, 1854. This convention has proven a very vital and controlling factor in the history of the Buffalo Association and of all American associations ; it is a matter of interest and proper pride to recall the fact that Buffalo, with Washington, took the initiative in the movement from the start, and that the calling, the holding, and the success of the gathering were largely the work of Buffalo men.

A very important office in the Union from the beginning was that of the Corresponding Secretary, whose first duty was to "be the organ of this association in its correspondence with other societies." Buffalo was very zealous in its efforts to found new associations and bring them all into harmonious relations. In 1854, Mr. Oscar Cobb, then Corresponding Secretary, was authorized by the Board of Managers to join with the like officer of the Washington Association in a call for an American Conven-

tion. Accordingly, a circular letter was sent to all the associations, which began as follows :

ROOMS Y. M. CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS,
BUFFALO, N. Y., and WASHINGTON, D. C.,

BROTHER IN CHRIST :

February 28, 1854.

There are now in the United States twenty-six Young Men's Christian Associations. Each of these several societies is organized on the principle that "union is strength"; its members are banded together that the strong in faith may aid the weak; that the earnest and reliant may encourage the faint-hearted and wavering; that they who rest calmly in the possession of a Saviour's love may, in God's name, run to meet those who are "yet a great way off." Why, then, should not the same motives also call us to unite our several associations in one coöperating institution?

After some reference to associated effort in other countries, the letter concluded with a series of questions, the first of which was, "Does your Association think favorably of the proposition to hold a convention of the American Associations?" and included one asking for a choice of the convention city. This letter was signed by Oscar Cobb of Buffalo and Wm. Chauncy Langdon of Washington.

An early tribute to Buffalo as a "convention city" is found in the replies to this communication. Twenty associations responded, sixteen favoring the proposed convention and four opposing, although willing to send delegates; of the sixteen votes which named the place of meeting, nine favored Buffalo, six favored New York, with Buffalo second choice, and one favored Washington with Buffalo second choice.

The convention gathered in the rooms of the Union at the corner of Main and Mohawk streets on Wednesday morning, June 7, 1854. The following associations were represented by thirty-seven delegates: Portland, Me.; Portsmouth, N. H.; Boston, Worcester, and Springfield, Mass.; Buffalo, N. Y.; Pittsburg, Pa.; Washington, D. C.; New Orleans, La.; Louisville and Lexington, Ky.; Cincinnati and Cleveland, Ohio; Chicago, Quincy, and Peoria, Ill.; St. Louis, Mo.; San Francisco, Cal.; Toronto, Can.

Buffalo was represented by Oscar Cobb, Jesse Clement, S. S. Guthrie, Edwin Jackson, Amos Williams, N. A. Halbert, E. A. Swan.

The proceedings from first to last were well managed, business like, and characterized by great harmony and Christian fellowship; it was essentially a working convention, and the only outside recreation seems to have been a well-planned and very delightful trip to Niagara Falls on the day following the adjournment of the convention, when the delegates were the guests of the local organization.

The chief outcome of this convention was the following historic series of resolutions :

THE CONFEDERATION.

1. RESOLVED, That this Convention recommend to the Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and British Provinces the formation of a voluntary confederation for their mutual encouragement, coöperation and usefulness, and that they recommend, when twenty-two Associations shall concur in the plan hereinafter suggested, the said confederation shall go into operation.

2. RESOLVED, That a Convention of the Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and British Provinces be held annually at such time and place as may be determined.

3. RESOLVED, That while it would oftentimes be judicious to discuss in convention principles of organization and action, this body shall have no authority or control over the local affairs of any Association.

4. RESOLVED, That a Central Committee be appointed, to consist of eleven members, five of whom shall be residents of the city where the committee shall for the time being be located, and shall be members of different religious denominations ; the remaining six to be selected from the Associations generally, not more than one member from any one Association.

5. RESOLVED, That the Central Committee shall maintain correspondence with American and Foreign kindred bodies, promote the formation of new Associations, collect and diffuse appropriate information, and from time to time recommend to the local Associations such measures as may seem calculated to promote the general object ; but it shall not have authority to commit any local Association to any proposed plan of action until approved by said Association, nor to assess any pecuniary rate upon them without their consent.

6. RESOLVED, That the Central Committee be appointed by this Convention, and continue in office until their successors are appointed by a subsequent Convention.

7. RESOLVED, That the Central Committee shall ascertain the wishes of the different Associations in regard to the time and place of holding each annual Convention, and shall issue the call as nearly as possible in accordance therewith.

The most important action of the convention, aside from these resolutions, was the determination that "while we look to members of these (evangelical) churches for our leading and governing influence, and, in order to preserve the Christian element, that such only should hold offices or vote on alterations of the constitution," yet the qualifications of membership ought to be left to the individual association, and the broadest, widest, heartiest invitation ought to be extended to young men of all creeds, and of no creed, to share its privileges and enjoy its fellowship.

The men of this convention built wisely and well, and upon their work in large degree has arisen the great international fellowship of to-day.

CHAPTER III.

PERIOD OF ADVERSITY.

THE early success of the association, thus briefly outlined, was phenomenal; there followed, first, a checking of the growth and then a slow recession from the high place of usefulness and public esteem which had been attained, until the day was reached when contemporaries said its life was only nominal. The causes of this were perhaps many; speaking from different view-points of experience or opinion, various explanations are offered by those who were friends of the association during this time of trial; but there are four causes which emerge as probably the largest contributors to the unfortunate result.

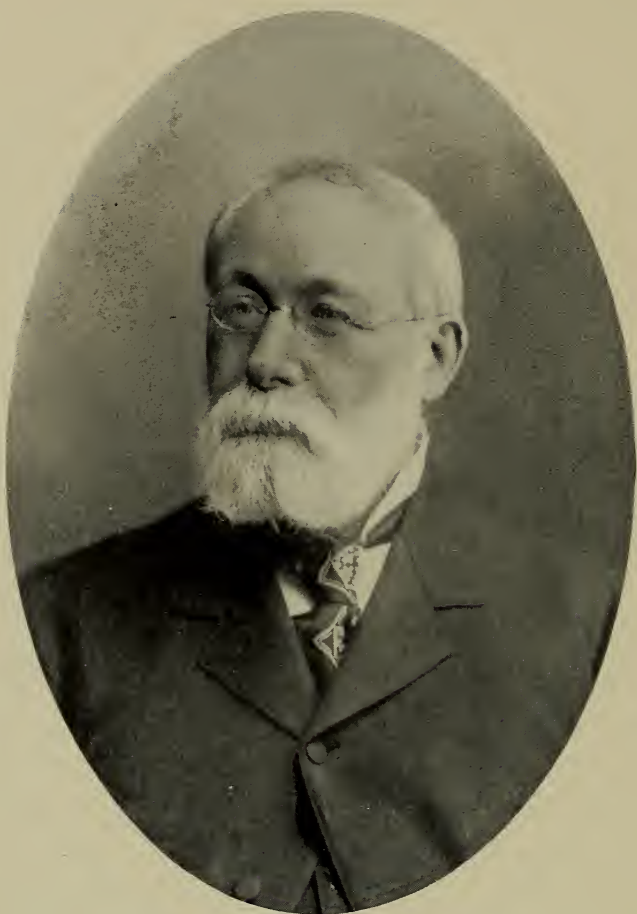
The first cause was the financial embarrassment which grew out of the heavy burden of the Kremlin Hall lease. The move to these somewhat elaborate quarters was enterprising and apparently justified by first results; but it was perhaps premature and over bold, for the young organization set for itself a pace which it could not maintain, was forced to move to poorer quarters, to contract rather than expand, and suffered the usual fate of all men and organizations which have to take steps backward from better to poorer things; moreover, the confidence of the public in the business management was somewhat shaken.

A second cause is found in the financial depression which was general throughout the country in the last years of the fifties and during the war, and which was severely felt in Buffalo. We do not need to explain why this affected such an enterprise.

A third and more lasting cause was the absorption of the mind, the heart, the life, of the community in the great issues of the civil war; to save the Union from disruption—that was the one desire of all hearts; to accomplish this, the time, the service, the thought, the money, of all true citizens were freely devoted; but for other issues and other endeavors there was little time or disposition. It is not strange that the Young Men's Christian Union suffered with the rest.

It is possible that cause enough has already been named, but those who have studied the history of the Young Men's Christian Association, in the light of modern development, not alone here but throughout the world, see in the story of these years other conditions amply sufficient to cause disaster, and which, indeed, rendered success impossible. These conditions are found in the departure, which has already been noted, from those clear purposes and objectives which made the association originally a necessity and which alone could make it successful. What the times demanded was a work for young men, especially those strangers who were flocking to the great cities; at the outset, the Buffalo Association had this purpose clearly in mind and sought to attain it by methods new, appropriate, and practically impossible to any other organization; the methods were the same in kind as those which have been developed into the wonderful success of to-day. The business community and the churches saw their utility and the need of such an organization to use them, and gave a hearty support. After 1857, the association devoted itself more and more to general missionary, evangelistic, and Sunday School enterprises; these methods were not new or peculiar, could be done better by other agencies of the church, and needed no such organization as the Young Men's Christian Association to carry them on. The churches felt uneasy because possibly here was a new sect, and business men felt it was a fifth wheel; as a result, but little support was given.

We feel that a study of this period, at all critical or at all true, demands that we say this much; but fairness both to the local association and to the faithful workers of those days demands that we add these four things also. First, there was a theory under this course which was true and worthy and which constitutes a very important factor in association method to-day; it becomes dangerous to association growth only when made to stand alone as the only method used. The theory is, that the improvement of the spiritual and mental conditions of young men can be attained by uniting and interesting them in some, or any, form of Christian work. Second, the Buffalo Association has not stood alone in this experience; the first International Convention commended mission Sunday Schools and nearly every association has tried them, or other similar endeavors, with nearly the same results. Almost without exception, the older associations have begun with clear and true ideas, which brought early and great prosperity; have passed through what some have called the "Sunday School period," which brought failure and in many cases entire extinction; and the survivors have then returned to first ideals



ROBERT B. ADAM,
President of the Association

and have developed them into present conditions. Third, the course adopted was perhaps the necessary, or at least the natural, outcome of existing conditions. They were treading unknown ground ; they saw at first in what general direction lay success, but they did not know the precise road ; it looked difficult and involved expense that seemed impossible ; they must go somewhither and so followed the lines of least resistance into familiar paths. Fourth, the men of those days did the work they undertook with zeal and rare devotion ; it was, moreover, done in many cases very effectively and great good has come of it, even although the organization, as such, did not prosper in the doing.

We think of this period, sometimes, as a necessary one of hard experience and fiery trial, out of which the association emerged with its conviction so absolutely welded to right purposes and methods that the union can never be broken. The association has learned a lesson of loyalty to ideals which it will not soon forget.

During the year 1857 the pressure of the heavy rental which the Union had agreed to pay for Kremlin Hall began to be felt, and an arrangement was made with the landlords which permitted the organization to give up the hall proper and retain the other rooms on the third floor at an annual rental of \$300. Financial conditions, however, grew steadily worse, and in 1859 the indebtedness of the Union became so great and so pressing that heroic remedies were required. After much search, a room was secured on the third floor of "Mr. Brisbane's Block" on Main Street, which block was afterwards known as the "Arcade," and stood on the site of the present Mooney-Brisbane Building. For this room they agreed to pay a rental of \$50 from December 12, 1859, to May 1, 1860. The Union settled with the owners of Kremlin Hall by turning over some of the best of its furniture and by paying \$150 in cash, which it borrowed of a friend, securing the loan by a chattel mortgage on the library. In May, the Union moved into a room on the second floor of the same building, where it agreed to pay an annual rental of \$100. About two years later it moved again to other rooms on the third floor, which were more commodious and also apparently a little cheaper. The library was installed in these various rooms, but evidently they were scantily furnished, for chairs had to be rented whenever a meeting of any considerable size was held.

On February 3, 1865, the Union moved into a room, or rooms, on the third floor of the building of the Young Men's Association, on the site of the Iroquois Hotel, and afterwards the quarters were transferred to other

rooms on the fifth floor of the same building. These quarters were secured at a merely nominal rent. The Union had never before gone so high up for an abiding place, but nevertheless it registered low water mark in its history. A signed communication in the *Christian Advocate*, in its issue of February 9, 1865, says :

The Board of Managers of the Young Men's Christian Union held their first meeting in their rooms in the Young Men's Association Building last Friday evening. The occasion was a very pleasant one. Their rooms are beautiful and commodious and the prospects for the future of this Association are cheering. The Board are very anxious that this Association shall take a higher rank and prove a more efficient power for good in this city. The Association has always been too much embarrassed by a depleted treasury, and has not received the support its objects merit. The Board have determined to bestir themselves, to double their diligence, and make the present year the most prosperous in its history. With our pleasant relation to the Young Men's Association, our pleasant suite of rooms, and our harmonious Board of Managers, we hope to rise and let our light shine.

We fear this report is a little too optimistic, for many remember these quarters as barren, deserted, cheerless. Part of the books were not placed on the shelves, but remained in boxes ; as we shall see, the Union was too busy with Sunday Schools to think much of its own quarters. Here in this lofty perch the Union remained until the dawning of more ambitious days.

It is unfortunate that during this period of twelve years there is practically no record of membership. But few annual reports were printed and only two have been preserved among the records. In these two there is no list of members nor statement concerning the membership, except that certain numbers had joined during the year. The Treasurer's accounts are very incomplete and the minutes show the records of election, but not of resignation or quiet dropping out by non-payment of dues. Moreover, the local newspapers gave very little space to the Union during this period. But from various indications, found here and there, a general idea of the membership can be formed. In 1857, the total was 846 ; in 1858, we find the Treasurer reporting \$512 received from membership dues, which would indicate a paying membership of 256, for the dues were then two dollars annually ; to this must be added forty life members. We have a full Treasurer's report for 1861, which shows \$340 received from dues, which indicates an annual membership of 170. In 1862, we find the Treasurer presenting a budget in which he estimates receipts from membership dues, on the basis of past years, at \$150, which would indicate an annual membership of 75. The dues

were, in 1863, reduced to \$1.00, but no evidence is found of any marked increase in membership during this period ; it is probable that the Union had a paying membership of from fifty to one hundred men.

Finances were always troublesome ; after clearing off the debt which was the legacy of Kremlin Hall, the Union met its liabilities until 1860, when its financial enterprises were quite successful. John B. Gough lectured three times under the auspices of the Union, and his course netted \$554.93. A festival was held which netted \$216.04. The following concerning this festival, taken from the *Christian Advocate*, may be found interesting :

The Young Men's Christian Union of this city contemplates an event of unusual liveliness within a few days at St. James Hall. About fifty ladies from the several churches and ladies of noteworthy position have taken charge of the affair. It, of course, will and must be successful. Speeches, music, and eating always attract the multitude. The Christian Union is one of the enterprises which should receive the favor of all good citizens. The community at large know but little of what the Union is doing. From fifteen to twenty mission Sabbath Schools have been commenced and are sustained by them, besides a vast amount of moral and religious labor expended on other objects of great interest. In fact, we know of no organization whose labor is more extensive and self-sacrificing. The Union should be sustained and encouraged, and we invite our citizens to attend the approaching festival on Monday evening next, at St. James Hall. —December 13, 1860.

The Union's festival, which took place Monday evening at St. James Hall, was the leading and most successful one which has yet been given. One of the largest audiences was in attendance. The President of the Union, Dr. John D. Hill, gave it his personal supervision, and with his assistants, not excepting the ladies, managed the affair throughout most admirably. Speeches were delivered during the evening by H. W. Rogers, Esq., Wm. C. Bryant, Esq., Mr. J. N. Larned of the *Express*, and Rev. Dr. Heacock. The music also was fascinating. The supper prepared by the ladies was a prominent feature, of course, of the evening. — December 20, 1860.

The surplus thus created was carefully husbanded and seems to have covered the annual deficiency for several years.

In this year also the association received its first large gift, \$1,000, from Gaius B. Rich, which was held, for a time, as a permanent endowment.

Thereafter funds came, by dint of hard work, from lecture courses, annual festivals, or "teas," an entertainment given by the Central High School which netted \$300, church collections, and private subscriptions.

David Gray continued to act as librarian until February 1, 1859, when he handed in his resignation, which was accepted. No reason for this is stated, but it is not hard to imagine that a man of Gray's great ability



CENTRAL BUILDING,
Corner of Mohawk, Pearl, and Genesee streets.

was very rapidly becoming justly ambitious for more remunerative employment, while the Union was with equal rapidity becoming less able properly to compensate such a man. He was followed by R. McEwen, who served until December 27, 1859, for \$3.00 per week, at which time he made way for James J. Sargent, to whom the Union paid \$1.00 per week. On April 17, 1860, the Rev. P. G. Cook first entered the Union's employ as librarian at a salary of \$2.00 per week ; he seems from the first to have devoted much of his time to general city work and was called upon the records the Union's "City Missionary," in November of that year ; in 1861, however, he was reëngaged as librarian at a salary of \$3.00 per week, and so continued until April 29, 1862, when he was reported to have been engaged as city missionary by a number of city churches. Mr. Cook's place as librarian was taken by his son, Titus G. Cook, at a salary of \$50.00 annually. After this the thread of succession in this office seems to have been lost ; no further records of paid and regular librarians can be found. The entire energy of the Union was now thrown into the work of city evangelization and Sunday School extension ; the great ambition of the Board of Managers became the employment of a city missionary. After much planning and discussion, Rev. W. J. Bruce was, in June, 1863, engaged for a trial period of three months, but his efforts not proving successful nor satisfactory, the engagement was not renewed. On March 15, 1864, Rev. James Dubois was engaged as city missionary, and on July 11, 1865, Rev. P. G. Cook was engaged, at a salary of \$1,000, and H. Alward as assistant, for work among the Germans ; he received an annual salary of \$100 for two days' work each week. Mr. Cook undertook his work with great vigor and devotion ; probably few men have ever been better adapted for such work and few men have been more successful. He was still in office at the close of the period of which we are now writing.

We have spoken of rooms, numbers, money, and paid workers ; these are important because they indicate the plant, the tools, the means, but the things of ultimate importance are the work and the results.

In 1865, the Union caused to be published in some of the local papers a statement of the purposes and work of the organization, in order that "the public might know and appreciate what it was doing." This is interesting, as showing what was the inspiring ambition of the workers of this period ; it began as follows :

We call the attention of the people of Buffalo to the fact that there is an organization founded upon the cardinal principles of "good will to men," whose object is to preach

the gospel to the poor—to establish Sunday Schools in remote parts of the city—to induce the poor children who do nothing but play in the streets on Sunday to come to these mission schools and learn the facts and feel the influences of our holy Christianity—to reach the parents through their children—to scatter religious truth among the ignorant—to make a pleasant home for young men of our city, upon whom soon must rest the civil and religious responsibilities of their fathers—to introduce young men coming into our midst to worthy associates and throw around them the bonds of Christian fellowship—thus keeping them, while away from good influences of home, secure against the ten thousand allurements to vice in a great city—and placing them in good standing in society, surrounded by friends ready to give counsel and aid, thus begetting and cultivating a love for all that is good and worthy in life.

We will briefly review what the Union did in carrying out this programme. The work of the Library and Rooms Committee was evidently permitted to languish; there are indications that the rooms were very poorly supplied with reading matter; and that the library, while it grew slowly until it numbered two thousand volumes, was often neglected and illy cared for. There was during this period something of a rivalry between the Union and the Young Men's Association in the matter of library, and the latter organization was more successful in reaching the people's good will and pocketbooks. We are compelled to believe that the Union rooms were not very attractive during this period and did not draw large numbers of young men.

Lecture courses were given from time to time; never quite so ambitious as those of earlier days, but some of them must have been very fine and must have helped the reputation of the Union very materially. While the moral quality in these lectures were never lost sight of, they seem to have been thought of largely as a source of revenue.

The Committee on Intellectual Improvement, until the beginning of war days, was very active and reported regular meetings for this purpose. But little that is definite can be found concerning these meetings, although they seem to have been conducted largely upon the usual lines of literary societies.

The work of bible and tract distribution was continued, but was gradually merged in the general work of the city missionaries.

As we have said, the real strength of this period went into missionary effort and general Christian and benevolent work in city and country. This work may be divided into three general kinds, which were largely distinct, although necessarily the connection between them was very close. First, there was charitable or relief work; at one time toys and other Christmas gifts were provided for the children at the County Poorhouse;

at another time, \$100 was voted to buy clothing for destitute children ; again, a regular relief bureau was organized, and at various times many calls were made upon poor families by the city missionaries, and clothing, supplies, and money distributed. The record cannot be read without the conviction that very great good was accomplished through these efforts. Secondly, came a variety of Christian undertakings, which we may perhaps group under the general term Evangelistic ; services were held at the poorhouse, at the jail and penitentiary ; prayer meetings and preaching services were held at different points in the city which the churches did not reach, and where the beauty of Christ's gospel was rarely preached and still more rarely practiced. The first city missionary, Mr. Bruce, apparently gave his time exclusively to purely evangelistic work, and Mr. Cook, later, was largely engaged in it. In 1859, the Union began an effort to extend its field of labor beyond the limits of the city, and meetings were held at "destitute places where they had no regular religious services" in the surrounding country. A large number of such meetings were held ; but, in 1863, the men concluded that there was ample opportunity for labor within the city itself and the work of "Country Visitation" was formally abandoned. The third kind of work was that of organizing and conducting mission Sunday Schools, which was begun during the previous period and continued with great vigor in this. P. G. Cook was elected Chairman of the Sabbath School Committee, on September 14, 1858, and from that time the mission schools began more and more to monopolize the energies of the Union, for Mr. Cook's heart was in this work and he threw himself with all the vigor of his strong personality into its prosecution. We cannot give even in outline the story of this work ; it constitutes a history by itself — perhaps we should say a series of histories. It is impossible, likewise, to measure or even name the results with any accuracy ; but some things that are permanent and of great value grew out of the Union's Sunday Schools. One school, started on Canal Street, was afterwards removed to Virginia Street and has since become the Prospect Avenue Baptist Church. What was known as the Sixth Street Mission, after being sustained for several years by the Union, passed under the care of the First Presbyterian Church and became the West Side Presbyterian Church. Another mission school, organized and conducted on High Street, was afterwards placed under the care of the Washington Street Baptist Church and became the High Street German Baptist Church. Another school was organized in what was known as the "Soldiers' Rest" on Exchange Street, was afterwards moved to Wells



STEPHEN M. CLEMENT.



WILLIAM A. ROGERS.



WILLIAM H. WALKER.



ROBERT R. HEFFORD.

PASCAL P. PRATT (22).

ROBERT B. ADAM (32).



JOHN W. ROBINSON.

JOHN J. MCWILLIAMS (44).

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, JUBILEE YEAR.

Street, and finally became the Wells Street Church, which is now located on Stanton Street and known as Bethesda Presbyterian Church.

In this connection it is interesting to note the curious fact that one result of this work for young men was the founding of the "Home for the Friendless," a retreat for aged women ; the project was first efficiently urged by Mr. Edward Bristol, as president of the Union, and the first meeting held to consider it was called and presided over by him. Another curious outcome of the efforts of the young men of these and succeeding days was the founding of "Ingleside Home" for fallen women, which grew out of the work carried on at the Evans Street Mission.

The War of the Rebellion brought with it many new conditions and new duties. Hundreds of thousands of young men massed in garrisons, in camps and on the field, all of them in the midst of the temptations and manifold evils that are the handmaidens of war, and yet standing daily in the presence of the awful mystery of sudden death, presented a marvelous opportunity to the Church of Christ and confronted it with a most solemn duty. The Central Committee of the Young Men's Christian Association accepted the opportunity and organized the Christian Commission ; all the world knows of the work of this commission, but all the world does not know, perhaps, that it was but another name for Young Men's Christian Association ; it is a beautiful story of absorbing interest and has been often told. Buffalo did its share nobly and well. Dr. John D. Hill was at the outset made a member of the National Commission and throughout the war was Chairman of the local Army Committee. A large number of soldiers were stationed in Buffalo at "Camp Morgan ;" the first efforts of the Union were directed towards these men ; meetings were held and good reading matter supplied. As the war grew in greatness, the need of greater efforts was felt. A splendid meeting, under the auspices of the Union, was held at the North Church, at which Dr. John C. Lord presided ; this was the first of many similar meetings held during the war period. The Union was able to send two missionaries into the field in 1862, and Dr. Hill is authority for the statement that over \$100,000 was raised by the Army Committee in Buffalo and devoted to this work for the soldiers of the Union. The work of this committee was vigorously, effectively, and successfully done, and constitutes a bright page in the association's history.

In the year 1868 the Union occupied very unsatisfactory quarters ; its membership was small ; there were long gaps between Board meetings ; its life had gone largely into its mission efforts, which now hardly

required the mediation of the Union. At this time a number of earnest young men of different churches were conducting a series of noon-day prayer meetings in the First Presbyterian Church; the meetings had been so successful that the young men felt the need of some more definite organization, in order to conserve the energy which had been developed. A meeting was held on August 11, 1868, and the following resolutions were adopted :

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this meeting that it is the duty of the young men to connect themselves with the Young Men's Christian Union of this city and work through them for the interest of Christ and humanity.

Resolved, That we will apply for membership in said society at the first opportunity.

Resolved, That those in favor of joining the Young Men's Christian Union sign their names to a petition to the President and Board of Managers of that society.

The petition was thereupon drawn up and signed by the following : I. G. Jenkins, G. W. Comstock, Charles H. Baker, P. A. Lee, E. E. Richardson, G. W. Lewis, P. R. Laughlin, E. McAllister, William B. Robinson, H. Dagenhard, Wm. R. Frary, F. E. Coulson, J. E. Baker, Francis Brayley, F. E. Kneeland, S. S. Kingsley, James Campbell, E. C. Warner, C. J. Dinsmore, F. G. Hunt, H. M. Birge, Robert Thorn, J. S. Halbert, C. Hubbell, E. P. Bowen.

On August 20th these young men met in conference with the Managers of the Union, presented their petition and were duly elected members, without payment of dues.

We have given this incident quite fully because, coming at the moment it did, the accession was of very great importance to the Union. It brought new life, new ideas, and new hope into the organization and was one of the things which marked the beginning of better days.

CHAPTER IV.

PERIOD OF RECONSTRUCTION.

ABOUT the year 1869 there came into the life of the association a spirit of unrest and righteous discontent; the little band of faithful men, who had stood by the organization and had given to it so generously of their time, money, and service, seemed to realize that something different was needed if the best success were to be achieved, or if the avowed purpose of working for young men were to be attained in any effective sense.

A number of influences undoubtedly contributed to this condition, most of them coming from without the city itself. In 1869, the evangelical test was adopted and defined at the International Convention held at Portland; this action unified the associations of the country and permanently fixed and solidified their essential character. In some way, which we will not attempt to explain, the adoption of the "Portland Test" seems to have given a new and great inspiration to the movement everywhere. Robert McBurney of New York City, "Father McBurney" to all association secretaries, had been for years hammering away, in his own city and before conventions, at that which was to him his very life, the need and methods of a distinctive work by young men for young men; at the close of the decade the influence of his work was beginning to be widely felt. During the latter half of the decade, the International Committee, which, during the early part of its existence, had wandered from city to city, having been centered for three years in Buffalo during the fifties, was permanently located in New York, and soon afterward Mr. Richard C. Morse began his service as secretary for the committee. With these changes came new life and new tendencies, and these all flowed in the direction of distinctive work for young men. Again, New York City, in 1869, furnished an object lesson in brick and mortar; for during that year the association of that city was building a fine structure on 23d Street, which was the first building, it is claimed, ever designed and built exclu-



JOHN J. McWILLIAMS,
Treasurer of the Association.

sively for the work of a Young Men's Christian Association. The basis and inspiration of this building, to quote the words of the then president of the New York Association, was, "The idea that if a building could be erected answering to a club house for young men, with everything in it calculated to exert a cheering and brotherly influence, where they could grasp a friendly hand when they came in, and where a gymnasium and music and classes for study were to be found, as well as religious and bible meetings, an influence would thus be exerted upon these young men that would hold and gradually mould them until their habits were fixed in the right direction."

These sidelights from without, when they fell upon the serious conditions within — a city full of young men and also full of wickedness and irreligion, an association doing but very little for very few young men and having a very hard time doing that little — brought a conviction that there should be new and different effort, and suggested the direction this effort should take.

Just about this time came the addition of a fine body of young men, to which reference was made in the last chapter ; it brought new strength and encouragement, both because it added many zealous workers to the membership and because it showed that young men anxious to do something to help other young men turned naturally to the Union.

This spirit of unrest and craving for better things found expression in many ways, to some of which we will refer in detail : a determination to fall in line with the rest of the country in the matter of name, a desire to secure better rooms, to place these rooms in constant charge of a competent man, who should be neither librarian nor city missionary ; to secure a building of their own, to cut off some of the work, and to begin a more distinctive work for young men. To attain all these things, in any large degree, required a fifteen years' struggle, a long and weary effort, full of discouragement and disappointments, with times of backsliding as well as times of climbing ; but the men of this period were men of great courage and indomitable perseverance ; they were strong men, who were used to succeeding where they attempted ; moreover, they had the consciousness that it was the Master's work, and in that sign they ultimately conquered.

For eighteen years the Buffalo organization had held a unique position in the national brotherhood, in that it had differed from all others in its name. It seems somewhat strange that this difference had in nowise affected its position in the brotherhood, nor apparently caused any especial comment either at home or abroad ; and yet, with the reawaken-

ing life, came a natural desire to harmonize with other associations in this respect as well as others. The change seems, however, to have been made with very little discussion. In 1862, Dr. J. D. Hill had given notice that he would present an amendment to the constitution changing the name; the proposed amendment was referred to a committee to report as to its legality; this committee never reported, and Dr. Hill's resolution was never brought up.

On December 7, 1869, the records of the Board of Managers show the following entry: "Upon motion, the Committee on Rooms was instructed to use upon the signs to be procured by them as the name of this institution the 'Young Men's Christian Association.'" This seems rather an informal way to inaugurate so important a change. At the annual meeting, held March 17, 1870, the new name was adopted by resolution and not by constitutional amendment. No further thought was given to the matter until 1879, when an act was passed by the State Legislature confirming and ratifying the change thus informally made and legalizing all acts done under the name of the Young Men's Christian Association of Buffalo.

Immediately after the accession of members already referred to, the Board seemed to realize the necessity of securing rooms which might in some measure, at least, enable the association to fulfill its purpose of providing a place of gathering for young men. Investigation and discussion were started and as a result, on November 8, 1869, the Board met for the first time in the room over No. 302 Main Street, which had been secured at an annual rental of \$250. Pledges amounting to \$400 annually had been secured and new furniture had been purchased. At this first meeting the Board, full of new enthusiasm and ambition, ordered a thorough rebinding and general overhauling of the library, and arranged for a very creditable assortment of magazines and papers for the reading-room tables.

But this room was soon outgrown; for in November, 1870, a committee was appointed to look about for suitable rooms for a gymnasium. This is an interesting fact, as it is the first official recognition of the propriety or possibility of caring for a young man's body as well as his mind and spirit.

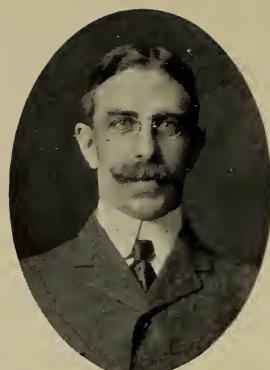
On January 1, 1871, the association moved into very convenient and accessible rooms over the store at 319 Main Street; here the Board had secured three rooms at an annual rental of \$350, with the privilege of taking the rest of the floor at any time for \$150 more. This additional

space consisted of a large room, which was, on April 18, 1871, rented by the association and fitted up as a lecture room or hall, with a seating capacity of about 200. These rooms were very largely visited by young men, particularly strangers and clerks from the city stores, many of whom fell into the habit of spending their evenings there. So great was the increase in attendance that during the first year it was found necessary very largely to increase the supply of reading matter on the tables. The reading room and library at this time were free to all comers.

In 1875, the association moved again into another suite of rooms over 345 Main Street, at the corner of North Division Street. These rooms were well adapted to the purpose, and were very handsomely furnished by ladies of different churches; they were not as large as other quarters the association had occupied, but were, perhaps, the most attractive and homelike in appearance. Here the association remained for three years, hoping earnestly and persistently that the next move might be into a building of its own. As the consummation of this ambition seemed to remove itself farther and farther into the future, the Directors realized that something must be done to bridge over the interim. Plans for the kind of work they wanted to do were taking more definite shape in their minds, but they could not be carried out in the quarters then occupied. The idea of occupying the old Court House, then about to be abandoned by the county, began to be discussed. There were evidently two sides to the question, for apparently contradictory action was taken at different times, and we think all were reluctant to take the step, because it seemed to push the day of a permanent home still farther into the future; but the arrangement was finally made, and on April 30, 1878, the Board held its first meeting in the old Court House building on Clinton Street, which had been leased at a nominal rent. This move, so far from hindering the progress of the building project, very essentially aided it; for this building, old, inconvenient, and out of repair, was yet the largest the association had ever occupied and made it possible to try the doing of a definite work for young men along modern lines; so great were the results accomplished, under circumstances so unfavorable and environment so disagreeable, that the wisdom of the methods used was demonstrated and the conscience and active interest of the community aroused. The building was in very bad repair and there was much confusion in the use of rooms during the first year. In March, 1879, however, action was taken providing that the gymnasium, which had been started on the third floor, should be brought down to the first; that the second floor should be devoted to



J. I. PRENTISS.



G. R. HOWARD.



S. S. KINGSLEY.



W. A. JOYCE.



F. W. H. BECKER.

R. B. ADAM (32).
F. E. SICKELS (58).

J. J. McWILLIAMS (44).
A. E. HEDSTROM (58).



J. H. DANIELS, M. D.

J. W. ROBINSON (40).
T. SPEYSER (58).

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, JUBILEE YEAR.

reading room, library, parlor, and office, and the third floor used as a hall. The building was accordingly meagerly equipped after this plan and rented from May 1, 1879, for two years, at an annual rental of \$300; and here the association remained until it entered into the promised land of its own home in 1884.

Among the young men who came in upon petition in 1868 was an active, earnest young fellow, still attending school and very anxious to do all that he could in the Master's service; this was Isaac G. Jenkins, who was in 1870 elected Corresponding Secretary, and who began at once to devote much of his time to the association. He made the rooms his headquarters, spending there all the time he could spare from his other duties, and very much of the success of the association, during the first years of its new life, was due to his untiring activity and consecrated effort.

On April 5, 1870, the Board found itself heavily in debt to Mr. Cook, who still continued in his office of "City Missionary." His time had recently been devoted largely to the mission work at Wells Street Chapel and it was not deemed wise nor necessary to continue the association's connection with that enterprise, which had gained a multitude of friends of its own. So, at this time, in the very pleasantest way, the relations between the association and Mr. Cook were severed and the salary matter was adjusted, partially by turning over to Mr. Cook everything connected with the Wells Street Chapel.

On April 1, 1871, the Board arranged with Mr. Jenkins, who was still Corresponding Secretary, to devote all his time to the service of the association upon a salary of \$50 per month. That same year the first conference of paid association workers was held in connection with the International Convention at Washington; eleven men attended this conference, of whom Mr. Jenkins was one, and it was there determined that the chief paid officer of each association should be called a "General Secretary." After some uncertainty and wavering, the new name was gradually adopted in Buffalo.

Mr. Jenkins continued in office until January 11, 1878, when he sent in his resignation to the Board; there seem to have been two reasons lying back of this step: first, the fact that the association was very far in arrears in the payment of his salary, and, second, a disagreement, pleasant in its spirit and yet apparently irreconcilable, concerning methods of work and the duties of a General Secretary. At the request of the Board, this resignation was withdrawn until after the association

might become settled in its new quarters in the Court House, but was again presented on June 25, 1878, and accepted, to take effect August 1st following.

After Mr. Jenkins left, Mr. Charles A. Coxe was employed as "Managing Director" or "Acting General Secretary," as he was variously called, at Mr. Jenkins' salary; this arrangement was continued for about two months and was then cancelled for financial reasons.

On October 14, 1878, Mr. John Steinacker, who had previously been employed as janitor and gymnasium superintendent, was "requested to take possession of the rooms and act under direction of the Board"; we quote the language of the resolution. His salary was fixed at six dollars each week. Mr. Steinacker does not appear to have been ever formally appointed General Secretary, but he seems gradually to have assumed the usual duties and prerogatives of that office, was referred to on many occasions as General Secretary, and signed two annual reports as such. There seems to be a difference of opinion among the active men of that day concerning the position which Mr. Steinacker occupied; these facts are stated as they appear upon the records, because they probably furnish an explanation for this confusion. On February 7, 1880, Mr. Steinacker resigned, and, on the same date, Mr. Charles B. Wheeler, who was then a Director, was formally elected General Secretary, without pay, but with power to employ Mr. G. H. Tackabury as assistant at a salary not exceeding sixty dollars per month. This temporary arrangement was superseded in July of the same year, when Mr. John B. Squire began his service as General Secretary. Mr. Squire was recommended, and indeed secured, by Mr. George A. Hall, State Secretary. He came to Buffalo fresh from Williams College, full of enthusiasm and zeal for the profession he had chosen. His coming synchronized with a fresh impulse in the development of distinctive work for young men throughout the entire country; Mr. Squire was in complete touch with this development and soon was reckoned among the leaders in the great movement. His coming marks the beginning in Buffalo of modern methods in any form at all complete or exclusive.

The membership record during this period shows great fluctuation. In reading it, the fact must not be forgotten that until the association moved into the old Court House building there were very few young men attracted into membership because of the privileges offered. Nearly everything the association had to offer was free to everybody and it was only the active workers who became members. In September, 1871, the

constitution was amended so as to permit two classes of members, active and associate, the latter class including any young man of good moral character. The creation of this class rendered possible the growth of a large privilege-using membership, and has had a great and very beneficent effect upon the life of the association. Prior to 1869 the membership was very small, as we have already seen. During 1871 a mighty and very successful effort was made to bring in new men ; at one meeting, in March of that year, 163 new members were elected, including many who have since become very active in the association ; in 1872, the total membership was 632 ; after that there was a falling off, there being only 159 in 1875 and 281 in 1878 ; in 1880, with the coming of Mr. Squire, the greater attractiveness of the quarters and the certainty of the new building, a rapid climb upward began ; there were 429 members that year ; 706 in 1882, and 935 in 1883.

During all this period the financial problem was always vital and sometimes very troublesome. Mr. Cook's salary was badly in arrears and so was Mr. Jenkins', but for all that, the people of Buffalo gave largely and generously to the association when called upon, and it is worthy of note that there seems never to have been a time, when the association was in great need and carried its need earnestly and prayerfully to the people, that there was not found a ready and sufficient response. An illustration of this is found in the financial crisis of 1878, when the association was badly in debt, was forced to let Mr. Jenkins go, and seemed for the moment almost discouraged ; in December a committee, consisting of Mr. George N. Pierce and Mr. Charles B. Armstrong, took hold of the matter with vigor and with faith, and in a few days raised \$1,500, thus retrieving the financial situation. The ladies came grandly to the rescue on various occasions, notably in the Church Union Bazaar and the Authors' Carnival, to which we shall again refer.

It has been noted, that, at the beginning of this period, there grew up a new determination to do a more distinctive work for young men ; there was, however, great difficulty in agreeing upon the best methods and still greater difficulty in securing the plant and the money for such new methods as were agreed upon ; but a careful study of the different lines of work followed during this period will show an essential distinction between most of them and the lines followed during the previous period ; the work of that period had as its essential principle the idea of uniting young men in religious work — for anybody, man, woman, or child ; the essential principle of this period was the idea of uniting young men in



REV. P. G. COOK,
1865-1869.



DAVID GRAY,
1856-1859.



ISAAC G. JENKINS,
1871-1878.



JOHN B. SQUIRE,
1880-1891.



JOHN R. STEINKNER,
1878-1880.



ALFRED H. WHITFORD,
1898 —.



HENRY D. DICKSON,
1891-1898.

GENERAL SECRETARIES.

helpful and, in its broadest sense, religious work — for *young men*. Much of the work would not now be considered wise nor quite appropriate, but most of it was designed primarily to reach young men of some sort.

In September, 1871, the constitution under the title “object” was amended by inserting the word “physical,” so as to make it read, “The object of this association shall be the improvement of the spiritual, mental, social, and *physical* condition of young men”; thus, at last, the association came to recognise that marvelous trinity in man, each member of which is God-given, and cannot be safely despised nor neglected by God’s Church — body, mind, spirit. The plans announced for the year 1872 included a “gymnasium complete in all appointments”; but this plan was not realized. The association had no gymnasium until it came to occupy the old Court House; then the old vaults on the ground floor were nicely fitted up, the young men invited in and classes started. The young men came, and no stronger proof of the need of the new building, then slowly becoming a reality, could be furnished than the sight of eager young men standing up for class drill, so many in numbers that they filled the ugly old rooms, spread out into the hallways and almost overflowed into the street. If so many would come here, what would happen with rooms really attractive?

On May 6, 1871, at a large meeting held to celebrate the opening of the new lecture room at No. 319 Main Street, a detailed announcement was made concerning the programme of the association. No better idea of the work at the beginning of this period can be given than by reproducing this list, numbered as we find it, stopping to add such words of comment and explanation as may be demanded.

1. A noon-day prayer meeting. This was open to all, but intended especially for business men. The meetings had been started some months before and continued with varying results, and with many long breaks, for several years.

2. A Thursday evening meeting for young men. This was not long continued.

3. Cottage prayer meetings. These were held in different parts of the city, were open to all classes and sexes, and continued with considerable success for many years.

4. Open air meetings on the Sabbath. These meetings were continued at various times for many years. They were preaching and singing services of the familiar kind, in the slums, with a hydrant, a barrel, or

a box for a pulpit, and with such a changing crowd as could be brought together. The young men did the preaching ; the work was very helpful to the worker, and brought, we are assured, large results on many occasions.

5. Sunday evening service at the Canal Street mission.

6. Sunday afternoon service at the jail. This service was continued by the association for many years.

7. Sermons to young men, once a month, alternately in the churches. We find no record concerning the carrying out of this plan.

8. Sunday afternoon bible class in lecture room. Continued with varying success for some time and has grown into the present form of Sunday afternoon service.

9. General monthly meeting.

10. Social meetings for members and lady friends once in two months.

In the following year, the Saturday evening prayer meeting for young men was started. An effort was made to make Saturday evening very attractive socially, so as to draw young men into the rooms ; at nine o'clock an invitation was given them tactfully, not urgently nor offensively, to come into a short meeting for prayer ; at first very few accepted the invitation, but within a short time there were over fifty young men each week, and the meetings were continued very successfully for many years.

There were added at different times thereafter regular weekly services at the Penitentiary, the Almshouse, Ingleside Home, and Home for the Friendless, some of which were continued for many years ; missions were conducted on State Street, Commercial Street, and at other similar points ; the distribution of tracts was continued more or less regularly for many years ; a "flower mission" was for some time carried on, the purpose of which was the furnishing of flowers to the sick in hospitals and the imprisoned in jail and penitentiary ; a gospel tent was at one time kept open for evangelistic services, and many other similar enterprises showed great activity and zeal in Christian service.

Two enterprises deserve more than passing notice. In the fall of 1872, the association, which had always given time and money for relief work, undertook a more ambitious plan for helping the worthy poor, particularly men. At No. 98 Pearl Street, they opened the Holly Tree Soup

and Coffee Room, and on January 1st of the following year we find the room in full working order and doing a flourishing business. Meals were sold at very low prices or were furnished upon the presentation of tickets, which the association distributed through its friends and in various other ways. The winter of 1873-4 promised to be a hard one, with much suffering among the poorer classes; extraordinary efforts were therefore made to provide a large relief fund. Here the ladies, as usual, came to the rescue and a grand Church Union Bazaar was held, which netted the goodly sum of \$2,708.82. This bazaar was remarkably successful in every way, socially as well as financially; society women as well as the always faithful women of the evangelical churches became interested and many a good friend was made for the association. In addition to this fund, \$1,700 was raised by a committee headed by Mr. D. P. Rumsey, and the Holly Tree Soup and Coffee Room was duly launched upon another prosperous and useful winter's work. The room was closed on April 11, 1874, after having disbursed \$2,805.15; 3,045 meals and 88 lodgings had been sold, and 4,348 meals and 1,190 lodgings given away. A general relief work was carried on in connection with it, and this was continued for some years thereafter by the committee, which operated much of the time under the name of the Buffalo Relief Society.

During the winter of 1874, a plan was matured for establishing a permanent restaurant and lodging house for working men; it was presented to the public through the press, with an appeal for help in securing the \$800 necessary to pay the rent. The premises at No. 3 Pearl Street were rented, and the Friendly Inn was opened on Friday evening, May 22, 1874. A copy of the advertising circular issued has been preserved, and seems worth reproducing:

"THE FRIENDLY INN,
No. 3 Pearl St.,
(Near the bridge) Buffalo, N. Y.

The place to find

A good meal,

A clean bed,

A bath room.

A free reading room,

A place to write letters,

A chance to get employment.

Shippers, boat captains, and all others desiring male help will find it advantageous to call at the Friendly Inn, as it is intended to make it the rendezvous of sober, steady men. No charges for securing hands."

There followed a bill of fare with prices and list of temperance drinks on sale. The Friendly Inn was intended to be self-sustaining, most of the patrons paying for what they used. Tickets for meals and lodgings were sold to citizens to be given to applicants, very much in the manner which has since become familiar. A really great work was carried on in this inn ; thousands of men were sheltered, fed, and entertained in clean and moral surroundings ; hundreds were shown the possibility of better things and many found new hope and a new life within its walls. At first nearly self-sustaining, it seems afterwards to have been found increasingly difficult to meet expenses, until finally, in the face of a steadily growing deficiency, the association, on April 16, 1878, paid up its indebtedness and ordered the doors closed.

One of the first things which Mr. Jenkins did for the association was the establishment of *Our Young Men's Paper*, of which he continued to be the editor until the close of his connection with the association. The first issue appeared October 1, 1870, and it was at first a weekly, enjoying the distinction, if Mr. Jenkins was right in his contention, of being the first association weekly in the country. It was later, however, changed into a monthly, and so continued until the end. The paper was largely given up to general religious reading for young men, but contained always, at least, a little association news. It attained a very large circulation, part of which was undoubtedly a matter of free distribution.

The employment bureau early in the seventies was placed upon a very excellent basis and the work done thoroughly and systematically ; it was a very appropriate work, distinctively for young men, and the results were really remarkable.

In April, 1876, an effort was made to establish a work peculiarly for railroad men, which eventually resulted in the founding of the first railroad branch ; this story will be told more fully hereafter and is mentioned here only because the credit belongs to the men of this period and it should here be added to the sum of their achievements. Another effort at expansion was less successful ; a branch was established at Black Rock, showed some signs of useful life, and then languished and died.

The most notable feature of this entire period, and the one about which more than any other centered the thought, hopes, and ambitions of the members, was the building fund. The history of the building idea in the Buffalo Association is an interesting one and will be given with some detail. On the day that Mr. Pascal P. Pratt became president, March 2, 1857, it was resolved that the Board take immediate measures to secure a

building fund of \$20,000 and a library fund of \$10,000 ; a few days later the matter of raising the building fund was referred to the Finance Committee, which was composed of these men : Jason Sexton, William M. Gray, George Howard, George S. Hazard, Andrew J. Rich, Francis H. Root, and S. S. Guthrie. On May 4th following, a special committee, consisting of Sherman S. Rogers, N. A. Halbert, and Dennis Bowen, was appointed to examine the charter and ascertain whether the organization had power to make investments.

These committees never reported. The reason is not far to seek ; the year 1857 was one of business panic and financial ruin, and there followed the years when the association was fighting for its very life.

On October 27, 1868, immediately after the accession of young blood, to which reference has so often been made, a committee was appointed to investigate the feasibility of raising by stock subscription, in shares of \$10 each, an amount sufficient to secure property suitable for a permanent home. On November 23d, a sub-committee reported seven available locations, ranging in price from fifteen to sixty thousand dollars ; but on February 18, 1869, at the annual meeting, the retiring President was obliged to announce that "The movement for the purchase of a building has not resulted in accomplishing that most desirable object."

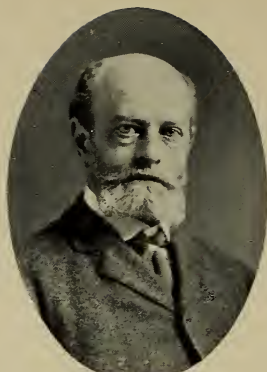
Another effort was made in 1870, and another committee appointed. This committee prepared a plan, which was submitted, discussed, and finally dropped for some reason which does not appear. Six months later the same clergyman, who nineteen years before had come to the rescue of the handful of young men struggling to bring together a number large enough to begin the work, again lifted his voice for the association, and with his wonderfully persuasive eloquence, followed by practical obedience to his own appeal, breathed the first breath of real life into the building fund project. On June 25, 1871, a public meeting in the interests of the association was held in Lafayette Street Church, and the Rev. Dr. Heacock delivered a very strong and earnest address, at the close of which the first subscription was made ; it was not known then, but became known afterwards, that Dr. Heacock himself made this subscription. Others followed, and at the annual meeting of 1872, President E. L. Hedstrom reported \$359 in the bank and additional pledges amounting to \$6,000. One year later the amount in bank had grown only to \$455.06, and we have no report concerning new pledges ; then came to the city dark days financially ; they were hard days for the association. Too much credit cannot be given to Mr.



F. M. HAYES, M. D.,
Central Department.



T. SPEYSER,
German Department.



M. D. MANN, M. D.,
Student Department.



F. E. SICKELS,
Army Department.



A. E. HEDSTROM,
B., R. & P. Department.



C. H. SEYMOUR,
Union Terminal Department.



E. A. BENSON,
East Buffalo Department.



JOHN HOWARD,
Depew Department.

CHAIRMEN OF THE DEPARTMENTS, JUBILEE YEAR.

Hedstrom and his helpers for the heroic courage and supreme grit with which they clung to their task, and, in spite of financial depression and obstacles of every sort, raised the total amount of subscriptions to \$31,000, as announced in the public press.

In October, 1874, came an event which greatly cheered the hearts of the Building Committee and seemed to bring the new building almost within their grasp. This was "The Authors' Carnival," which was originally suggested by Mr. Jenkins and which owed much of its success to his wise counsel and helpfulness. The project was taken up enthusiastically by the entire association, was publicly commended by the clergy, cordially supported by the public press, and managed and directed by the ladies of the churches of all denominations. Briefly stated, the idea was the presentation of living pictures of characters, taken from the books of celebrated authors, clothed in the costumes, doing the things and surrounded by the environment, as their creators had described them; these pictures made the various booths, in which were not lacking the usual means for turning an honest penny; there were, besides, special entertainments for each evening and various other attractive features. The Carnival was a grand success, artistically, socially, and financially; it netted the building fund the sum of \$5,871. The officers of the women's organization, to whose faithful efforts this success was largely due, were as follows: President, Mrs. Jerome F. Fargo; Vice-Presidents, Mrs. F. H. Root, Mrs. E. G. Spaulding, Mrs. George Howard, Mrs. M. P. Bush, Mrs. S. S. Jewett, Mrs. S. G. Haven, Mrs. S. V. R. Watson, Mrs. Jason Parker; Secretary, Miss Mary Burtiss; Treasurer, Mrs. S. W. Warren.

After this, progress was slow until 1878, when the land covered by the present building, which was then called the Mohawk Street Police Station property, was bought; the price was \$12,000, upon which \$10,000 was paid down, but it was more than a year before the balance was collected and paid. After this, the building fund crept slowly upward, by force of hard and persistent effort, with many setbacks and times of discouragement, until, when the building was completed and dedicated, it aggregated \$94,301.24; the association had borrowed \$2,100 to clean up all indebtedness, and not until this debt had been met, in 1888, did the committee finally report and ask to be discharged; the total subscriptions then aggregated \$96,545.16, which represents the precise cost of the property.

So far as we know, the first ambitious effort to plan a building was made in 1872, when two architects submitted designs, wood cuts of which

were published in the daily papers and in *Our Young Men's Paper*. The elevations show very handsome and stately structures and the accompanying prospectus indicates that they were fairly well planned for a modern work. After the purchase of the Mohawk Street property many futile efforts were made to buy the rest of the triangle, but finally the association decided to build on the lot already owned. Mr. William Perkins, an officer of the association, prepared a study for a building, which was accepted by the Board on January 7, 1882, as the basis for architects' plans. On March 4th, competitive elevations were submitted by architects and, on March 23d, those submitted by Porter & Percival were selected by ballot and accepted. On June 8, 1882, the contracts for the building were awarded.

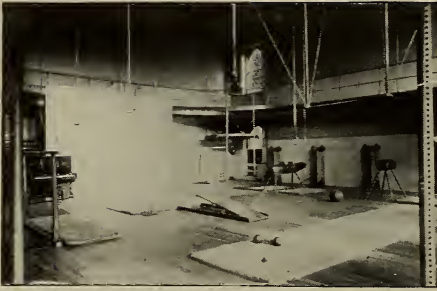
The laying of the corner stone took place on September 7th of the same year. The devotional exercises on this occasion were in charge of the Reverends William Hughes, E. E. Chivers, Dr. George H. Ball, and Dr. W. S. Studley; addresses were delivered by His Honor, Mayor Grover Cleveland, Mr. C. B. Armstrong, and the Rev. Dr. W. S. Hubbell; a statement of the building fund was made by Mr. R. B. Adam; the first President, Rev. Isaac C. Tryon, read a statement of the contents of the corner stone, and the then President, Mr. N. G. Benedict, declared the stone well and duly laid.

The dedicatory service was held in the new Association Hall on Monday evening, January 28, 1884. It was a very notable occasion and one of great solemnity. The audience was large and peculiarly representative and the addresses of great power and interest. Rev. Dr. John Gordon, State Secretary George A. Hall, and Rev. J. B. Kneist took part in the devotional service; Rt. Rev. A. Cleveland Coxe, Bishop of Western New York, conducted the dedicatory office; Mr. W. H. Gratwick, Mr. Cephas Brainerd of New York, and President N. G. Benedict delivered addresses; Mr. O. P. Letchworth presented the report of the Furnishing Committee; Mr. R. B. Adam read the report of the Building Committee and presented the building to the Board of Trustees, and Mr. P. P. Pratt, President of that Board, accepted the same and presented it for the use of the association.

Thus was finally crowned with success a long struggle, which began in 1868 and lasted sixteen years. It was very truly said by Mr. Benedict that it is only to those who believe in God and are engaged in His work that is given the persistence, the energy, the steadfast faith, which makes such struggles and such victories possible.

It is not a gracious thing to single out from among so many faithful workers any one or two and give them special honor, but the story of this struggle for a new building would be very incompletely told if we did not recognize the fact that to two men, more than to any others, the present building owes its existence. From 1871 to 1879, inclusive, Mr. E. L. Hedstrom was Chairman of the Building Committee and led the battle through the discouraging days of the seventies ; from 1880 until the end, Mr. R. B. Adam was Chairman and led in the final victory ; of the rare and unselfish leadership and the untiring and consecrated persistence of these men too much cannot be said in commendation. The following gentlemen served under Mr. Adam from 1880 until the end : E. L. Hedstrom, P. P. Pratt, J. C. Greene, W. H. Gratwick, Thomas Chester, W. W. Brown, and Nelson Holland. The following served one or more years : F. W. Taylor, S. S. Rogers, Edward Holmes, F. H. Root, O. P. Letchworth, George Howard, C. B. Armstrong, William Perkins.

There remains only to chronicle the fact that on March 10, 1883, an act was passed by the Legislature of the State of New York which revised and amended the articles of incorporation of the association. The principal change was the creation of a Board of Trustees to hold and manage the real property and the endowment funds of the association. The following gentlemen were named in the statute : Pascal P. Pratt, William H. Gratwick, Francis H. Root, Eric L. Hedstrom, George Howard, Seth L. Mason, William H. Walker, Frederick W. Taylor, and the President of the association, *ex-officio*. Mr. Pratt was at once elected President and has continued in that office until this day.



GYMNASIUM — CENTRAL.



LUNCH ROOM — B., R. & P.



SOLDIERS' NIGHT SCHOOL — ARMY.



WARD IN HOSPITAL — EAST BUFFALO.



LIBRARY — DEPEW.



ONE OF THE FORTY BED ROOMS — UNION TERMINAL.

THE WORK ILLUSTRATED.

CHAPTER V.

PERIOD OF MODERN DEVELOPMENT.

FROM this time the history of the association becomes more familiar and, in a sense, more commonplace ; it is a story of active, strenuous life, of steady and persistent growth along lines well defined, but always widening. In any life story, it is the period of storm and struggle that furnishes the multitude of incident out of which absorbing history is made ; the time of prosperous peace, of yearly sowing and reaping, of everyday planning and doing, places the crown of reward upon the years of struggle and trial, brings the harvests in ever increasing measure, and accumulates the store of strength and resource which makes for greatness ; but yet the story is best told in tables of statistics, which, while they may be valuable, do not afford interesting reading.

After a lusty infancy under wise and consecrated leadership, which secured for it at once a high place in the community, a troublous boyhood of experiment, which taught it, in the hard school of experience, many necessary lessons, and a rising young manhood of determined struggle to reach the realization of slowly-forming ideals, a struggle which stiffened its character and hardened its muscles, the association entered fully into the heritage of its first maturity when it opened the doors of its splendid building on Mohawk Street. The story of its life since that time is largely a recital of how it has grown in numbers and usefulness ; widened, deepened, and bettered the channels of its work ; added new methods, dropped old ones, modified, improved, and extended others, as changing exigencies and new wisdom, learned of experience, have required ; it is a story of detail into which we cannot go very deeply.

One phase of association development during this period, however, has all the charm and interest which attaches to beginnings and first adjustments to new problems ; we mean the extension of the association to meet the needs and desires of different classes and conditions of men,

which has resulted in the founding of branches, or, as they are called in Buffalo, departments.

As we have already seen, the first permanent result of this policy of expansion was attained during the last period in the founding of the Exchange Street Railroad Branch. From that time down to the present the life of the association has run in two or more channels, distinct from each other and yet related, as in a river which has several channels and yet remains one river. But our story has thus far had relation to the stream near its source, when it had but one channel ; and for the sake of continuity of interest we will follow, in this chapter, the original channel down to the present, and consider what remains of the stream in the next chapter.

The building which the association dedicated in 1884, judged by the association standards of the day, was a very complete and perfect one ; a veteran association secretary, from a city larger than ours, said in Buffalo the other day, " When you put up that building eighteen years ago, I saw it and said to myself, with longing and, I fear, covetousness, ' Oh, if my city could ever have a building like that, ' but my common sense told me it never could." At the outset the basement was used for gymnasium, locker room, baths, bowling alleys, and barber shop ; the ground floor was entirely given up to stores, and the second floor to the principal association rooms, office, reading room, parlors, correspondence room, and lecture room ; the hall occupied part of the third and fourth floors, and the balance of these floors was divided between studios and offices for rent and rooms for various uses of the association ; the fifth floor contained the janitor's quarters and not much besides. As the work has grown greater and developed new phases, there has been constant shifting and readjustment, until to-day not a single room in any portion of the building is devoted to its original purpose, except that the ground floor is still given over to stores and offices. All of these changes have been made under the personal supervision of the Rooms Committee, of which Mr. S. S. Kingsley has been chairman for twenty years.

The work of the association had been well started along modern lines before the building was occupied ; many old lines had been abandoned, many old endeavors lopped off. This had not been done without opposition. Very naturally it was hard for men who had for years put the best of their heart and effort into the doing of some good work to abandon and discontinue this work in the face of a different theory of association method ; but this different theory, in its reasonableness and

logical consistency, appealed to the judgment of all, and, moreover, it had been long in the minds of the association workers, waiting only for the plant and the income to make it possible. And so, little by little, the old methods were slipped off and the new ones taken on, while yet the association was in its rented quarters.

At the annual meeting of 1885, Mr. Squire compared the first full year in the new building with the year ending at the annual meeting of 1881, which year he considered fairly representative of the life in the old quarters before it began to be affected in either way by the certainty of the new building; the comparison showed a gain of $132\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. in membership, being 79 per cent. in active membership and 296 per cent. in associate membership. Other comparisons showed the following percentages of gain: in committee men, 30; attendance at rooms, 120; attendance in reading room, 90; attendance at entertainments, 139; attendance at gymnasium, 130; attendance of men at Sunday afternoon meeting, 48; bible class enrollment, 200. These figures are interesting, because they indicate the gain in usefulness and attractiveness resulting almost solely from the occupancy of larger, better, more permanent quarters.

From this time the work has advanced steadily in all departments. In the physical department the advance has been most marked; not only has the number using the privileges been many times multiplied, but the character and scope of the work has been constantly bettered and placed upon a more thoroughly scientific basis. The gymnasium has become a place not merely for sport and exercise, but for body-building by means scientifically worked out and applied; a place not for making professional athletes but for making the all-round physical man, with that strong, healthy body which is fit to be the home of the sound mind and upright spirit. The system begins with a thorough physical examination by trained experts; exercises are regulated to fit the man, and the whole work is carefully and efficiently supervised from start to finish. All of this moreover, has been, and is to-day, done in a pure, clean, moral atmosphere; a quiet but persistent effort is made to keep the whole work upon the highest plane, where body-culture is remembered to be the making strong and beautiful of the temple of the mind and soul.

All this has not been done in a day; the system has grown slowly through the years and is still, to-day, growing steadily more thorough and more perfect. The physical work was handicapped even from the first by the lack of adequate provision for its accommodation. The associa-



BIBLE CLASS TEA—CENTRAL.



EDUCATIONAL CLASS—CENTRAL.



BOYS' CLASS—GERMAN.



BOYS' ROOMS—CENTRAL.



ATHLETIC FIELD.



SOME 1901 CAMPERS.

BUFFALO BOYS' CAMP—CHAUTAUQUA LAKE.

THE WORK ILLUSTRATED.

tion had not been in the new building a year before it was realized that a mistake had been made. Mistakes sometimes involve a fault somewhere, but it was not so in this case. When the building was planned, the physical work of the association everywhere was in its infancy, and it would have taken the vision of a seer to have appreciated the marvelous development of the next few years ; the building was planned about three years too soon. Improvements were from time to time made, or attempted, in the baths, the locker or floor arrangements, and the ventilation ; but the association never had a gymnasium at all adequate until after the fire in 1894, when the hall was turned into a gymnasium, a running track put in, the locker rooms brought up to the third floor, new marble baths built, and the whole fitted out into as perfect a department for physical work as circumstances permitted. The result was, on the whole, very satisfactory and has made present conditions possible. Growth, however, did not stop with this ; the gymnasium since then has absorbed room after room for locker or exercise purposes, and an excellent plunge with a number of additional showers was constructed in the basement during the year 1898. During all this period the gymnasium has been in charge of competent instructors, and it must be noted that the standards of competency have been steadily raised from year to year. A very large degree of credit for the present efficiency of this department must be given to Mr. J. Y. Cameron, who has been for several years physical director. The number of members who used the gymnasium in 1884 was 369 ; in 1902 it was 1,442.

In 1890 another departure in physical work was tried, and with success. With the coming of warm weather an indoor gymnasium loses its attraction and men naturally long for fresh air and out-of-door exercise. This presented an opportunity which the association could not wholly neglect. A large field for an Outing Park was rented on Delavan Avenue, near Elmwood Avenue ; the young men themselves raised \$1,500, to which the Board added \$400 ; a club house, with broad fireplace, lockers, baths, and long, broad verandas, was built, and the field was fenced and laid out for athletic sports. Two years later an adjoining field, which had been used by the Pastime Ball Club, was added ; after this a quarter-mile track of clay and cinders was built, an excellent ball field, and ten thoroughly good clay tennis courts were provided ; and with provision for all manner of track athletics, a grand stand, and two club houses, the Outing Park became one of the finest fields for athletic sports in the country. This park continued in very popular use until 1896, at which time it had to be

abandoned because the ground lease could not be further renewed. The park had been from the first a Board enterprise, in charge of a committee appointed by that body, and open in every respect to the use of all departments. The large field adjoining the East Buffalo building had already been somewhat developed and used for outdoor sports, and so when the Delavan Avenue Park had to be surrendered, the Board took up the East Buffalo grounds, helped to develop them, and the Outing Park work was transferred to that point. It has been carried on there ever since, under the immediate charge of the East Buffalo Department, with marked success.

The development of the intellectual work of the association has been equally remarkable ; not alone in respect to the number of young men reached, but even more in the matter of scientific methods and the excellence and variety of instruction and results.

The beginnings of the educational classes are found in the last period ; in the winter of 1880, the old "Committee on Intellectual Improvement" was revived and Mr. Charles B. Wheeler made Chairman ; this committee formed the first evening classes, in German, bookkeeping, and music. Upon this foundation, with slow and steady progress, has been built a system of educational classes, conducted with all the care, intelligence, and scientific study of methods and appliances which characterize educational institutions of the best class. The system has brought the opportunity for mental improvement and acquisition to thousands of young men whose days are necessarily given to work, and who would otherwise have been compelled to run the race of life without the mental training they so much coveted.

In the new building special class-rooms were set aside, and the number and equipment of these has been constantly increased since then ; like the physical department, the evening classes have been constantly reaching out and absorbing more space until there is nothing left to absorb. A system of examinations has been established in accordance with a plan issued by the International Committee and adopted by most of the leading associations of the country ; this international system practically makes Buffalo a part of a great educational institution having over 30,000 students on its rolls, and whose certificates are generally recognized at their face value.

The jubilee year report shows classes in the following subjects : Algebra, two classes ; Architectural Drawing, two classes ; Arithmetic, three classes ; Bookkeeping, two classes ; Business Law ; Chemistry ; Civil

Service ; Electricity, two classes ; Elocution ; English Grammar, two classes ; Latin, two classes ; Machine Design ; Mechanical Drawing, two classes ; Orchestral Music ; Physics ; Reading and Spelling ; Rhetoric ; Spanish, two classes ; Stenography and Typewriting, three classes ; Writing, two classes.

These classes have held 1,259 sessions, have been attended by 334 young men, and have been in charge of thirteen trained instructors.

Besides these classes there have been, from time to time during this period, educational lectures of many kinds, university extension courses, lyceums, debating clubs, clubs for study of social economics and other special topics, the Equality Club for dining and listening to noted speakers from abroad upon current topics, and so many other things to train and inform the minds of young men that it is not wise to attempt even an enumeration.

The reading room has been kept up, of course, and supplied with everything worth while in current periodic literature and with such dailies as are needed. It was visited 59.955 times last year.

The library was opened in 1852, and Mr. John U. Wayland drew the first book ; we have seen something of its growth since and noted that there were 4,056 volumes in 1884 ; the increase since then has not been so great as was hoped, but there are now 6,652 well selected volumes ; 968 members drew out 11,118 volumes last year. The library still awaits the endowment so ardently longed for in 1852.

During the later and best period of this modern development in the intellectual work of the association, it has been in charge of Mr. W. F. Hirsch, who has given to it very intelligent and efficient supervision.

The social life of the association has kept pace with the growth elsewhere ; aside from open doors and a warm welcome every day and every week-day evening, there have been many entertainments, special evenings and receptions, which have drawn hundreds and thousands to the building ; a summer garden has been conducted during the season with occasional entertainments ; and a great variety of means have been used to make the building an attractive home for young men. This should be added also, that there has been a growing tendency during the past few years to add the social element, in a very proper way, to all other branches of work ; the physical and educational departments have suppers and receptions ; the bible classes have teas ; the Equality Club has added a very fine social quality ; and the annual meetings of the association are made less formal and more social. There is no social life in America



UNION TERMINAL RAILROAD DEPARTMENT BUILDING. (LEASED.)
Fitch Institute, corner Swan and Michigan streets.

more healthfully democratic, in the best sense of the word, than that of the association, and we believe this development under wise leadership is full of nothing but advantage and great good.

The religious work has also greatly developed in many and varied ways. Before occupying the present building, the Sunday afternoon meeting was open to women as well as men ; upon entering its new home this was changed, and since then all the religious work of the association has been designed to reach men only, with one exception, which did not bring very satisfactory results. The Sunday afternoon Gospel meetings are still continued and are usually evangelistic in their character ; during the last few years the lack of an attractive hall has interfered with the largest success of these meetings. Prayer meetings have been held at hours and following methods differing from time to time, and there have been large results from these manifold efforts.

The most remarkable development has been in bible study ; and here again it is not merely a matter of numbers and size, but, what is of at least equal importance, there has been a wonderful improvement in methods and in orderly and intelligent system. We doubt if there can be found, outside of professional schools, a more thorough, complete, and logical system of bible study than the association has developed during the last few years. All the bible classes were in 1898 united into a Bible Study Department. A majority of the classes meet together Thursday evening for supper, for which each man pays his share, and then separate to the various classes for an hour's study ; this arrangement gives them the evening for other uses, which is a very desirable thing in these busy days. Last year seventeen bible classes were maintained. A total of 428 sessions were held and were attended by 313 different young men and boys.

These things are of value beyond the possibility of measurement ; but, after all, we cannot help thinking that the best religious work the association does is in that unconscious atmospherer of every young man who enters its doors with the spirit of Christ ; many a young man will repel the open invitation ; he cannot refuse to breathe the atmosphere in which he moves.

Another remarkable development of this period is the boys' work. The child is father of the man ; the fresher from God's hand, the more plastic the material ; character is often fixed for good or bad before the age of sixteen is reached ; to save the man, we should aim at the young man ; to save the young man, we must in many cases aim at the boy.

The association realized this, and in 1880, again back in the previous period, it tried to bring a few boys into a bible-study class ; in 1881, there were two such classes and Miss Ellen Brown taught one of them ; there were thirty-five boys in these classes and they continued for three months. The enterprise kept growing and special rooms were provided, with Miss Brown in charge, in the new building ; and still it kept growing, and in 1886 the Junior Department, or Division, was formally established and soon had a membership of 336. In 1887, the present rooms on the fourth floor were fitted up. We will not attempt to give the details of the junior work, for it is largely a reproduction of the senior work ; in most respects it is simply another association, with all its varied activities modified to meet the requirements of boys. From the start, the work has been in charge of Miss Brown — into it she has thrown her whole heart and life ; her influence over boys has been very remarkable ; they love her and she has brought hundreds of them to the Master. Our Junior Division has always been reckoned as one of the best and most progressive in the country.

The roll of the association shows in 1883, the year before the present building was occupied, a membership of 935 ; this was increased to 1,183 in 1884. In 1885, it was 1,291 ; in 1886, 1,329 ; and in 1887, 1,639. The remarkable growth of this year stimulated great interest in the membership and filled everyone with tremendous ambition to reach the 2,000 mark ; the following year all sorts of stimulants and spurs were applied ; two individuals, known only as "Peace" and "Enterprise," began a bombardment through circulars and articles in the association paper, *The Bulletin* ; one, or both of them, paid half the fees of those who would apply for membership between certain dates, and in these and other ways excitement was stirred up and made to run at a high pitch. The result was a membership of 1,918 at the annual meeting of 1888.

During these years a committee had been laboriously engaged turning out a new constitution, which should very materially change the organization of the association and place it upon a metropolitan basis. The members of this committee were treading almost unknown ground and had little to guide them except their own experience and judgment. This constitution was ready in 1888, but an act of the legislature was required before it could be adopted. This act was passed by the legislature of that year ; but was unexpectedly vetoed by Gov. Hill as being special legislation. Nevertheless, in anticipation of the proposed change, the annual report of 1888 gave the report of the work in the Mohawk Street

building under the heading "Central Department," and this was repeated in 1889 ; but it was not until after the annual meeting of that year that the "Central Department" was formally and organically created. The legislature of 1889 passed our act in slightly modified form, and the Governor signed it. The new constitution was adopted June 3, 1890, and from that time our metropolitan organization dates. More will be said in the next chapter concerning this organization. The Central Department began the year 1889-90 under charge, for the first time, of a "Committee of Management," composed of the following men : Frank E. Sickels, Chairman ; R. B. Adam, Jr., H. D. Blakeslee, Joseph E. Ball, N. G. Benedict, F. A. Board, C. H. Baer, Chas. A. Barker, Jno. A. Jones, Walter H. Johnson, S. S. Kingsley, Thomas Penney, L. B. Perry, George H. Sickels, Jr., W. G. Staniland, C. M. Underhill, C. Townsend Wilson.

The year 1889 showed that the great increase of the previous year was not an entirely healthy growth. Many of the members then brought in came, evidently, because they got something at half price and did not renew at the whole price. The total number of members dropped to 1,675, a loss of 243. Next year it dropped again to 1,562. At this time, in 1890, the rates of membership, which had for years been \$2.00 for ordinary membership with special fees for use of gymnasium, classes, etc., and \$10.00 for sustaining membership, were changed to the following : limited, \$2.00 ; full, including gymnasium, \$5.00 ; and sustaining, including everything, \$10.00. This change and other causes again stimulated the membership roll and this time with a more healthy growth ; the total in 1891 was 1,688, and in 1892, 2,023.

In 1891, Mr. E. A. Putnam was employed as Membership Secretary ; he has shown great aptitude for the peculiar work of this position, and Buffalo has had a larger percentage of membership renewals than any other association.

On September 1, 1891, Mr. John B. Squire, who had been for ten years General Secretary, severed his official connection with the association. It was a very great sorrow to all friends of the association, and seemed almost an irreparable loss, for Mr. Squire had entered so into the warp and woof of the life of the association that it seemed impossible that he could withdraw without injury to the whole fabric ; but Mr. Squire had before him what seemed to be a very favorable business opening, which he felt he ought to accept, and the Board could do nothing but wish him Godspeed in his new occupation.



GERMAN DEPARTMENT BUILDING.
Genesee and Davis streets.

Mr. Henry D. Dickson had been educated in association work as Mr. Squire's assistant, and was thoroughly familiar with Buffalo's needs and possibilities; he was at the Springfield Training School finishing his preparation for secretarial work, when Mr. Squire's purpose to resign was first made known to the Board, and the matter of the post about to be vacated was at once taken up with him. As a result, Mr. Dickson took up the work of Secretary immediately upon Mr. Squire's laying it down, and results more than justified the choice of the Board.

The membership continued to increase and in 1893 it numbered 2,125. During the night of January 12, 1894, a fire started in a dumbwaiter shaft in the building, from some cause which has never been fully understood; it spread rapidly to all parts of the building and, although the structure was saved from total destruction, it was badly damaged from top to bottom.

The association opened up the following morning in stores at Nos. 64 and 68 West Genesee Street, where it remained for nearly four months. The stores were used for offices, reading room, reception room, and class rooms; other classes and various religious services were held in the Central Presbyterian and the People's Congregational churches. A committee, consisting of S. S. Kingsley, John B. Squire, and Frank E. Sickels, was at once appointed, which, in consultation with Mr. Percival, the original architect, at once prepared plans and proceeded to crowd the work of remodeling and repairing. The result was a very much more serviceable and up-to-date building, with better arrangements in nearly every way, except that Association Hall had been lost. About \$13,000 insurance money was collected and the repairs cost about \$19,000, the difference being met by subscriptions.

At the annual meeting of that year, the membership, entirely owing to the loss entailed by the fire, had dropped to 1,683. It began to increase again, however, and one year later it was 1,849; in 1896, it was 2,025; and since then it has maintained a slow increase until, at the close of the jubilee year, it has reached the highest point ever attained, 2,422.

In 1898, Mr. Dickson received a call to the secretaryship of the 23d Street branch of the New York City Association; this meant for him in many ways a promotion and opened to him, he thought, opportunities for greater usefulness and service. His resignation was, therefore, handed in and, on February 1, 1898, was accepted by the Board. As happened in the case of Mr. Squire, so here the necessity for this action was deeply

regretted by the Board and by the entire association, for Mr. Dickson was very popular and his work had been exceedingly successful.

The question of a successor was at once taken up and Mr. Frank S. Goodman, State Secretary, was called in consultation. A great desire on the part of the Board was developed to secure the services of Mr. A. H. Whitford, at that time General Secretary at Rochester ; it was found that Mr. Whitford certainly would not come as Department Secretary, but might be persuaded to come as General Secretary of the entire association. This, therefore, opened up the question of completing the equipment of the metropolitan organization by the employment of such an officer ; it was determined to do so, and Mr. Whitford was called and accepted. He began his service in April 1, 1898, and to him is due, in large measure, the successful development of the work throughout the city which has taken place since that date. At the outset it was deemed wise to furnish him with a strong body of assistants and place him also in immediate charge of the Central Department, as Department Secretary.

A word, at least, should be said concerning the association paper, which took the place of Mr. Jenkins' *Our Young Men's Paper*, after an interval of a few years. *The Y. M. C. A. Bulletin* was started by Mr. Squire in 1882 as a monthly, the first number being dated January in that year. February, 1887, the title was changed to *The Bulletin*, and under that name it is still published. It has been, and is, the organ of the entire association, circulated among members without charge, and is the regular means of announcing and chronicling association news and communicating from office to member. It is now published under direction of the Board, and has been edited and managed for many years by Mr. F. H. Thatcher of the Union Terminal Railroad Department.

Throughout this entire period of the association's history, its finances have been skillfully managed and kept in a very healthy condition. It has been the purpose of the Board during this period to close the year entirely free from floating indebtedness, and this has been done except at times when unusual circumstances have made it seem wise to carry a part of the annual deficit at the banks for a few months, but never has the aggregate of more than one year's deficiency been carried. The wise business management which has characterized the association has been possible because its financial affairs have been in the hands of business men who have given to the association the same skill, energy, and wisdom which have won success in business life. The Director oldest in continuous service upon the present Board is Mr. J. J. McWilliams, who is

Treasurer of the Board of Directors, Board of Trustees and of the building fund ; he has been for years very closely associated with the financial side of the association's affairs, both as treasurer and as chairman, or member, of the Finance and Advisory Committees, and the association owes very much of its financial soundness and perfection of business methods to his guidance and devotion to its work.

We closed the story of the fourth period of association life by an account of the long struggle which found its reward in the Mohawk Street building. We can now close the story of the fifth period with an account of the effort which is finding its reward in seeing the walls of another building rise within a stone's throw of the present one.

The men of the last period built for the future, but they did not know how great was to be that future, either in city or association. For years the inadequacy of the present building has been felt ; further development along certain lines has been peremptorily stopped by the physical barrier of brick walls. In 1900 this condition had reached a point where it must be removed, or the association must go backward. A building designed for a membership of 1,500 was doing service for one of 2,300 ; a gymnasium designed for a membership of 800 was being used by 1,500 ; the educational classes were cramped and but illy accommodated ; the boys' work could not grow, because there was no room ; the entire building was a teeming hive of life and activity. Every room was used and everybody was crying for more. Further growth was impossible, and there is no such thing as standing still in such an organization ; it must go forward or it will, of necessity, go backward. And so a joint meeting of Trustees, Directors, and members of the Committee of Management was called, and held on January 30, 1900. As a result, a preliminary committee was appointed to investigate and report ; this committee reported that a new building was a necessity, and, finally, at a meeting held March 16, 1900, it was determined to undertake the raising of \$175,000 before January 1, 1901. Two committees were appointed, one consisting of R. B. Adam, J. J. McWilliams, W. A. Rogers, G. R. Howard, and J. W. Robinson, to raise \$100,000 in large amounts ; and another, consisting of W. A. Joyce, F. E. Sickels, F. A. Board, S. N. McWilliams, and A. H. Whitford, to raise \$75,000 in smaller amounts. The annual dinner that year was held at the Ellicott Club and was very largely attended. The building enterprise was there fully explained and the foundation laid for the canvass which followed. Both committees went to work vigorously and, as a result, it was announced, on January 1, 1901, that the



EAST BUFFALO RAILROAD DEPARTMENT BUILDING.
Corner Broadway and Bailey Avenue.

objective point had been reached and \$175,000 raised. Subscriptions had been made by 1,600 different persons. A Building Committee was at once appointed, composed of the following men: P. P. Pratt, R. B. Adam, J. J. McWilliams, Wm. A. Rogers, S. M. Clement, W. H. Walker, R. R. Hefford, J. W. Robinson, F. E. Sickels, F. A. Board, Wm. A. Joyce, S. N. McWilliams, and A. H. Whitford. This committee organized by selecting Mr. Pratt as Chairman, Mr. Adam as Vice-Chairman, Mr. J. J. McWilliams as Treasurer, and Mr. Whitford as Secretary. Mr. Pratt, whose health and advanced age rendered active service impossible, soon resigned the chairmanship, and Mr. Adam was elected in his place. It will, therefore, be noted with interest that the man who led the struggle for the first building to a successful issue is again leading this new movement to even greater success.

The question of site was at once taken up and propositions were invited. On April 13, 1901, the committee chose the property offered by the estate of the late Philip Becker at the junction of Pearl, Genesee, and Franklin streets, and, on September 2, 1901, a contract was signed for the purchase of this property for the sum of \$100,000, the association to complete the purchase not later than October 20, 1901.

The lot having been selected, the next question was that of plans and architects. Ten local architects, including all members of the association who had expressed a desire to compete, were invited to submit competitive designs; the committee agreeing to pay \$100 to each competitor whose designs met the requirements, and the first prize to be \$1,000, to be applied upon fees in case the building should be erected in accordance with the plans. Prof. A. D. F. Hamlin of Columbia University, New York City, was employed as an expert. Eight sets of plans were opened on July 18, 1901, and, after examination by the expert, the first prize was awarded to plans which were found to have been submitted by Green & Wicks. A contract was at once made with them and the perfecting and completion of the plans undertaken. This done, bids were asked for, and Kehr & Felton, of this city, were found to be the lowest bidders. Upon the basis of this bid it was now possible to ascertain more nearly the cost of the enterprise and to take account of assets. It was determined to borrow upon mortgage the sum of \$125,000, which represents a conservative estimate of the value of the old property; besides this, it was found that further subscriptions of \$125,000 were required. At this point a friend of the association offered to give \$25,000 provided the remaining \$100,000 be raised. A canvas for this amount was at once

undertaken and is now in progress ; as we go to press there remains unsubscribed about \$49,000.

In the meantime, however, in order that the building might not be unnecessarily delayed, a contract was, on February 1, 1902, signed with Kehr & Felton for the construction of the entire foundation and basement, the outside work in the tower and west wing, and for the entire completion of the gymnasium annex, for the sum of \$181,265; with further provision, that at any time before July 1st a further contract might be made for the completion of the tower and west wing at a cost of \$50,378, or for the completion of the east wing at a cost of \$26,438, or for both these things. Thus, with its usual business caution, the association has not contracted to pay a dollar it has not already among its assets. To the figures given above there will be added before the building is completed a large amount for architect's fees, fixtures, extras, and other charges, so that it is fair to estimate that the new building will cost \$300,000, to which must be added \$100,000, the cost of the site.

As we write these words, from New York comes news of a munificent gift, which, in a very beautiful way, links the opening year of the second half century with the memory of the opening year of the first half ; the honorable place of founder of the Buffalo Association belongs to George W. Perkins, as we have already seen. Mr. Perkins has gone home, but his son, bearing the same name, has not forgotten the beauty nor usefulness of his father's life. Mr. Perkins loved, all his life, to bring young men together and talk to them about the Master, and it seemed to his son a very fitting thing that the hall owned by the association which he founded, where will gather in years to come thousands upon thousands of young men to listen to the same story, should bear the founder's name. With this in view, Mr. George W. Perkins of New York City, a member of the firm of J. P. Morgan & Co., has subscribed twenty-five thousand dollars, which represents the cost of the hall in the new building, with the request that the hall be known as "Perkins Memorial Hall." The subscription has been accepted and the request granted by the Board of Trustees ; the completion of that portion of the building is, therefore, assured in a way peculiarly appropriate and fortunate.

Here the story of this second building project must be left at the close of the jubilee year. One cannot read it without comparison with the story of twenty years ago ; then, it took thirteen years to raise \$100,000 and erect the present building ; now, it has taken two years to raise \$250,000 and assure the erection of a building two and one-half times as large ; then,

it required a struggle desperate and prolonged ; now, it has required a deal of persistence, resourcefulness, and wise generalship on the part of General Secretary Whitford, large liberality on the part of a few friends, and a modest amount of work from many others. We do not think it can properly be termed a struggle. What does this change indicate? Three things, undoubtedly, if not others: that our city has grown greater and richer; that a new spirit of broad liberality in the giving of money is growing up in these later days; and, more than all, that the Young Men's Christian Association has proven its claim upon the purse of the community and has to-day a contributing constituency far greater, far more willing and loyal, than it had twenty years ago.

Here, then, the close of the first half century of life finds the Central Department, the old, original work of the Young Men's Christian Association of Buffalo, full of the vigor of youth and strength, abounding in good works, secure in the high esteem of the community and the hearts of its friends; looking forward eagerly to broader, more virile life and greater harvest of results in the magnificent building slowly rising under the touch of the workman's tool. Surely has God greatly blessed it in times that are past; may God bless it in even greater measure in times that are to come.



DEPEEW RAILROAD DEPARTMENT BUILDING. (LEASED.)
Depeew.



BUFFALO, ROCHESTER & PITTSBURG RAILROAD DEPARTMENT BUILDING.
Buffalo Creek — B., R. & P. Yards.

CHAPTER VI.

PERIOD OF METROPOLITAN EXPANSION.

WE SAID, at the beginning of this little book, that the Young Men's Christian Association is a product of natural growth, not of one great creative stroke. Its organism is very firm in respect to great basic principles, but very plastic in adapting itself to new conditions and new exigencies. It has no creed of polity nor of method which prevents its meeting every problem in the way that is wisest and most effective, even although in doing so old and established things must pass away.

In such a spirit it met the problems of government and relationships which grew out of the establishment of branch organizations. It is manifest that when an institution founds a branch and gives it some measure of self government, and the branch waxes strong and great and consequently self reliant, in such case the questions of control of, and relations between, the parent and the offspring will necessarily become important and delicate.

The metropolitan organization is the association's answer to this problem. It is like in its nature to the combination of federal and state governments in the American Republic ; with this vital distinction, that, while in the nation the federal government has only such power as is specifically given it and the States retain the residue, in the association the branches or departments have only such power as is specifically given them and the central authority retains the residue, with the additional right of ultimate and absolute control under the constitution. The association consists of the entire membership in all its departments, with a Board of Directors, Board of Trustees, President, General Secretary and other officers, who bear equal relations of authority and duty to all departments. The individual departments consist each of its own affiliated membership, with a Committee of Management, composed, wherever possible, of its own members, as a governing body. The Central, or Gen-

eral, Boards own and control all the property and are equally interested in all departments. The policy, however, has always been to leave the management of affairs within each department to its own governing body, with as little interference from the central authority as circumstances will permit. As actually worked out, the policy may be fairly described in two phrases—a maximum of power in the General Boards and a minimum of active exercise of such power.

In Buffalo the plan has proven most beneficent and efficient in results; the departments are strengthened by the sympathy and backing of the great organization, are helped in many practical ways by the union, and yet attain all the vigor and courage that come with self-reliance. Moreover, the General Boards being freed from the burden of details have been able to turn their attention and their energies into the work of further extension.

The first practical step in this direction was taken in 1890, when the constitution was radically amended and the Central Department was created out of the old, original work carried on in the Mohawk Street building. The elective members of the Board of Directors were reduced to twelve, four of whom it was provided should be elected annually; besides these twelve, the chairman of each department committee of management was made a member of the Board. The metropolitan organization and equipment were then left incomplete in two respects, however; the treasury of the Central Department was not separated from the general association treasury until 1898, and no General Secretary was employed until that year, when Mr. A. H. Whitford began his service.

While the formulation of the metropolitan plan of government illustrates the flexibility of the organic structure of the association, the founding and growth of branches designed for work among particular classes illustrate its flexibility in method and its remarkable adaptability to the varying wants and environments of all sorts and conditions of men. The work of metropolitan expansion has been going on rapidly in Buffalo during the past few years and there are to-day eight departments or centers of association life. I have already told the story of the Central Department; there remain the histories of the other departments, told in the order of their founding.

UNION TERMINAL RAILROAD DEPARTMENT.

Railroad men necessarily form a class by themselves. By reason of their peculiar life, it is very difficult for even those who sincerely desire it

to keep in close touch with the church, and the church as such, when taking the initiative, has found it well nigh impossible to reach them. They are much away from home and forced to spend many nights and eat many meals in other places, which must necessarily be moderate in price. The saloon has always been quick to accept a business opportunity and these conditions offer a tempting one. A magnificent body of men, subjected to many temptations, leading a peculiar and isolating life ; here was a problem, and the church, through the association, has solved it. The story of how the railroad corporations have been led to support this work, purely as a business proposition, is interesting, but cannot be told here ; it is sufficient to say that the day is not far off, even if it is not here, when every successful railroad corporation will consider departments of the Young Men's Christian Association as a necessary part of their plant and equipment.

The first special effort in behalf of railroad men in Buffalo was made in 1876, when a series of Sunday meetings was started at the Louisiana Street station of what was then the Buffalo, New York & Philadelphia R. R., now the Pennsylvania.

The first meeting was held in August and was addressed by Conductor A. H. Ketchum of the Erie and by Rev. G. E. Strobridge. These meetings were held outside the station until the weather became too cold, when they were continued in the waiting room. During the winter, however, they were transferred, for some reason, to the Wells Street Chapel ; this move seems to have been unfortunate, for the meetings were soon abandoned.

In September, 1877, General Secretary Jenkins and Mr. Samuel L. Seymour attended the first conference of railroad association delegates held at Cleveland. Touched with the enthusiasm of this gathering, they undertook to organize a Railroad Men's Christian Association during the winter of 1878. Mr. Seymour called a meeting of a few Christian Railroad men in his office ; this little gathering resulted in the calling of a general meeting for organization. At this meeting Mr. Seymour was elected President ; J. C. Schermerhorn, Secretary and Treasurer, and they, with A. H. Ketchum, were made a managing board. Meetings were held in the East Presbyterian Church, Mr. E. D. Ingersoll, Railroad Secretary of the International Committee, being present on many occasions to counsel and help. The railroads were petitioned for financial assistance, both for current expenses and for a building ; the New York Central and the Lake Shore responded favorably to both requests. A



F. R. STARKEY,
Office Secretary.



W. B. VAN SCOTER,
Librarian.



W. A. LEWIS,
Assistant Physical Director.



W. F. HIRSCH,
Associate Secretary.



J. Y. CAMERON,
Physical Director.



E. A. PUTNAM,
Membership Secretary.



H. C. HARTER,
Business Secretary.



A. P. HOLLY,
Assistant Secretary Boys' Department.



S. H. GARRY,
Office Assistant.



MISS ELLEN BROWN,
Secretary Boys' Department.

A. H. WHITFORD, Secretary (52).

CENTRAL DEPARTMENT—PAID OFFICERS.

committee was appointed which looked over the Central yards at East Buffalo, where it was proposed to locate a building, and reported that a great need existed there. But the movement did not seem to prosper and later a fresh start was made, this time in the heart of the city among the terminal stations. In February, 1879, Mr. Seymour presented to the Directors an expression of desire on the part of the Railroad Men's Christian Association to be organically merged with the Young Men's Christian Association, and the Board formally granted the request and completed the merger. In October, 1879, a new committee was appointed, consisting of S. L. Seymour, S. S. Guthrie, George N. Pierce, Mr. Lawson, and W. W. Buffum, and the down-town work was undertaken in earnest, and this time with success. The railroads were asked for contributions, and the following made pledges of monthly appropriations: New York, Lake Erie & Western, Lake Shore & Michigan Southern, New York Central & Hudson River, and Canada Southern. Mr. George R. Tuttle was engaged as Secretary and began his service April 1, 1880. Rooms were leased over 247-251 Michigan Street, which were furnished and occupied on June 1st. At this time no membership had been enrolled, but the work was at once taken up and pushed actively among the men. On December 1, 1881, the department moved to better rooms at the corner of Exchange and Wells streets, and on August 1, 1888, to still larger and more suitable quarters in the Rumsey Block at the corner of Exchange and Ellicott streets. Here it remained until December 1, 1901, when it opened and dedicated splendid quarters in the Fitch Institute Building at the corner of Swan and Michigan streets. Up to this time the department had been known as the Exchange Street Railroad Department, but the removal to another street rendered the old name inappropriate and it was accordingly changed to the Union Terminal Railroad Department; a name chosen with prophetic vision of the day when the department shall have fine quarters in, or near, the great Union Terminal Station.

The membership of such an organization is necessarily limited by the size of the constituency which it serves; during the twenty-two years of its existence the department has had a membership list fluctuating slightly from time to time, but slowly growing larger, until, at the close of this jubilee year, it has reached 403, the highest point it has ever attained.

Mr. Tuttle, the first Secretary, was succeeded December 15, 1880, by Mr. George W. Luce, who served until October 1, 1884, when Mr. C. H. Winne took his place. On November 7th of the same year, Mr. F. H.

Thatcher began his service, which has continued until now, without abatement of efficiency or success. The department owes much of its steady and progressive usefulness to his wise leadership.

The privileges offered in the Wells Street rooms were briefly announced as follows: reading room, conversation and amusement room, wash room, writing material, bath rooms, entertainments, young men's bible class, general bible class, gospel service, cottage meetings.

In the Ellicott Street quarters lodging rooms and a kitchen were added, with other attractions made possible by enlarged facilities. We cannot better characterize the work which is, and has been, carried on by this department than by describing the quarters where it is now domiciled and the uses to which they are put; for the work of to-day is the same in kind as the work of 1880, only better organized, better done, and in all ways made more perfect. The entire Fitch Institute building above the ground floor is occupied by the department, with the exception of the Swan Street front of the first floor. The first floor is given over to offices, cloak room, library and reading room well supplied with reading matter, amusement rooms with games of all sorts, including pool, bagatelle, and barletto tables; smoking room, large parlors, which can be thrown together, thus forming an audience room of considerable size, and a kitchen for use at members' receptions and entertainments. The floors above are both given over to large, airy, well-furnished sleeping rooms, wash rooms, bath rooms, and a large kitchen provided with gas ranges, all facilities for cooking, and a large number of lockers where the members keep their kits. Here the out-of-town members, "laying over" during meal time at the end of a run, prepare and cook their own meals, a privilege which is very largely used.

These jubilee year statistics add to our knowledge of the work. Average daily attendance at the rooms, 211; attendance at social gatherings, 1,215; volumes in library, 600; bible class enrollment, 30; lodgings furnished, 23,144; kitchen used, 14,344. The department spent \$8,537.37. Of this amount the following was contributed by the railroad companies: New York Central & Hudson River R. R., \$1,200; Lake Shore & Michigan Southern, \$600.00; Pennsylvania, \$300.00; Michigan Central R. R., \$300.00; Wabash R. R., \$30.00 (three months).

EAST BUFFALO RAILROAD DEPARTMENT.

As we have seen, when the association first became interested in an effort to do something for the railroad men of Buffalo, the point which

then seemed more than any other to demand attention was East Buffalo. The first start was made there in 1877, but did not prove successful ; the next effort was made down town and resulted in the founding of the Union Terminal Department. When, in 1888, the East Buffalo Railroad Department became a reality, it was, therefore, the final fulfillment of the hopes and purposes which inspired the men of the previous decade ; moreover, the department's history has fully demonstrated the soundness of their judgment concerning need and opportunity.

On November 26, 1886, Mr. Thatcher, Secretary of the Union Terminal Department, brought the matter of work at East Buffalo before the Committee of Management of that department and recommended that, "in order to bring the matter of a branch at East Buffalo into definite form, a committee be appointed to investigate and report fully at next meeting." The recommendation was adopted, and Chairman Frank A. Seabert appointed Henry L. Keene, Emery D. Angell, and Mr. Thatcher as such committee

What followed is well told in this item taken from the April issue of *The Bulletin* :

For several months the organization of a Railroad Department at East Buffalo has been talked of. The matter has been discussed from time to time by the Executive Committee, and a special committee appointed to look over the field, with a view to ascertaining the particular needs, the probable means of support, and best location. This committee found the greatest need for rooms and conveniences for the men, and found the men enthusiastic in the movement, and the deepest interest manifested by the officers and heads of departments of the several companies. On March 28th a meeting was held at the office of Mr. Eugene Chamberlain, Master Car Builder N. Y. C. There were present Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. Amos Gould, Master Mechanic N. Y. C.; Mr. H. H. Perkins, Joint Agent L. S. & M. S. and N. Y. C.; Mr. S. M. Slocum, Agent N. Y. C.; Mr. James Macbeth, Master Mechanic W. S.; Mr. Thomas F. Maloney, Yard Master N. Y. C.; Mr. G. E. Husted, Agent L. S. & M. S.; Mr. Geo. A. Warburton, General Secretary R. R. Department Grand Central Depot, N. Y.; Mr. S. E. Adams, President Buffalo Association; Mr. F. A. Seabert, and Mr. F. H. Thatcher, Chairman and General Secretary of this department. After thorough discussion, it was decided to push the matter at once, and the work is now well under way. Help has been promised by the several companies, and a Railroad Branch at East Buffalo is assured.

Pursuant to instructions given him at this meeting, Mr. Thatcher at once prepared a petition asking the Central, West Shore, and Lake Shore railroads, and Wagner Palace Car Company to unite in providing a plant for the Young Men's Christian Association in or near the East Buffalo yards and pledging the signers to membership and the payment of a \$2.00 fee annually. This petition was circulated among the men and received



FRED. W. BURKHARDT,
Physical Director.



HENRY E. W. SIMON,
Assistant Secretary.



OTTO RETTER,
Secretary.



CARL E. WITTWER,
Secretary, 1888-93, 1895-99.



HERMAN H. LOHANS,
Secretary, 1893-95, 1899-02.

GERMAN DEPARTMENT — PAID OFFICERS.

over 600 signatures ; it constituted an appeal so powerful that it brought, prompt and favorable response from three of the companies. The work of preparation and organization was then vigorously taken up, the officers of the companies themselves taking the lead ; Mr. Theodore Voorhees of the New York Central was especially active. State Secretary Hall was called upon and was actively interested with Mr. Voorhees in selecting the site for the proposed work and in securing the needed appropriations from the companies. At a meeting of the Board, held March 1, 1888, Mr. Voorhees, on behalf of the companies, submitted the matter to the Board, asking that the new enterprise be made a part of the association, and pledging the companies to its financial support. The proposition was accepted and President Gratwick was authorized to appoint a Committee of Management and formally constitute the department. A meeting of interested parties was held in the Board room on March 8, 1888, at which time the organization was completed and the following committee appointed, being made up entirely of representatives of the contributing companies : Eugene Chamberlin, Chairman ; Amos Gould, T. F. Maloney, W. H. Perrine, G. H. Hoover, M. Wilder, Theodore Voorhees, C. H. Ketcham, James Macbeth, H. E. Hewitt, H. W. Bradley, D. B. McCoy, T. A. Bissell, Ira B. Littlefield, J. M. Palmatier, and H. W. Webb.

Temporary quarters were at once provided by placing on the siding of the New York Central tracks at Bailey Avenue two passenger coaches, which were fitted up as reading and amusement rooms. Mr. H. E. Rhodes was secured as Department Secretary and began his service on March 15, 1888. Even to these limited accommodations the men began to come in rapidly and soon the membership numbered 1,000. From the start it was recognized that a building must be put up if the work were to be properly done. In the fall of the first year the West Shore Railroad Company offered to lease a lot at the corner of Broadway and Bailey Avenue for a nominal rental, and, the matter of appropriations from the companies having been adjusted, plans were prepared for the building and construction commenced. The building cost about \$10,000, which was paid by the Central and West Shore Railroad companies and the Wagner Palace Car Company. It was formally opened on February 18, 1889, with a grand reception, when special trains were run from Exchange Street and over 2,000 people were entertained.

Mr. Rhodes severed his connection with the department in April, 1889, and, after nearly three months' delay, his place was taken by Mr.

Edwin Kettle, who still remains in charge, and has been the chief instrument in shaping and building the department into its present excellent condition.

The membership of the department is peculiarly subject to influences arising out of railroad and industrial conditions; a continued strike nearly wipes it out; large freight business builds it up; full gangs in the car shops mean a full membership list, while half force or half time means a depleted list. In this fact is found the explanation of the great fluctuations shown by the records; for three years now it has held quite steadily at about its present number, 1,166.

In addition to the familiar association features, library, reading rooms, amusement rooms, parlors, bath rooms, social, educational, and religious meetings of various kinds, the department conducts a restaurant, at which 11,289 meals were served during the year just closed; has a number of bedrooms, which accommodated 4,198 guests; and provides a hospital for its members and railroad men generally, which is first class in every particular, being equipped with a modern operating room and in charge of competent surgeons and physicians. The average daily attendance at the building last year was 140; the library has 841 volumes, and was used 2,989 times; the bible class enrollment was sixty. The department disbursed \$7,900.20 last year, and the membership dues amounted to \$2,075.51. The Central and West Shore and Pullman Companies continue to be the supporting corporations.

GERMAN DEPARTMENT.

That Buffalo has a very large German population is a fact too well known to require anything more than the bare statement; east of Main street there is a German city larger than many respectable cities of the Fatherland. Our German-speaking residents are excellent citizens and loyal Americans; but the differences of race and language cause them, where they have settled in great numbers, to form a somewhat separate and distinct community and make it difficult to unite them with the native-born American in religious work. Moreover, the American association is peculiarly an American institution and it seems at times hard to adjust the German religious idea and method to its hearty support. These things have made it seem necessary in Buffalo to conduct an association work among German young men as a distinct institution, and have made it unusually hard to achieve success.

As far back as 1859, we find the association showing anxiety to help the German-speaking young men ; in the summer of that year a German bible class was started in Roth's hall, on Michigan Street, and conducted for sometime with considerable success. In 1865 the association employed Rev. A. Alward as City Missionary, assisting Mr. Cook, to do a special work among Germans. In later years at various times German prayer meetings were held in the rooms and special efforts made to interest German young men.

At the annual meeting of 1887, President Adams, in his address, used these words, " It has been suggested that it would be a grand thing if, in the German quarter of our city, some such institution as this Young Men's Christian Association could be established. What can we do for the German young men ? "

Stirred with a desire to do something for their fellows, a few Christian young men went to Rev. E. Jung, pastor of the United Evangelical St. Peter's Church, immediately after this annual meeting and asked his help. A number of meetings were held in the school room of Mr. Jung's church, at which the matter was thoroughly discussed. It was decided to ask Mr. Claus Olandt, Jr., German Secretary of the International Committee, to come to Buffalo and assist in the matter. Mr. Olandt came, and it is proper to say at the very outset that from this time until the erection of the building the German Department had no more devoted friend, nor more faithful, efficient worker than Mr. Olandt. He at once put himself in touch with General Secretary Squire and the two pushed the enterprise vigorously. Mr. Olandt called on many pastors and business men and finally called a meeting of representatives of German evangelical churches of all denominations to be held in the United Evangelical St. Paul's Church on the evening of May 22, 1888. This meeting was attended by about sixty men, representing five denominations ; after some discussion, it was resolved to petition the Board of Directors to organize a German Department. This petition, when laid before the Board, met with a very cordial reception, and after two informal conferences between the Board and the committee representing the meeting of May 22d, the prayer of the petition was granted. On June 5, 1888, the department was formally constituted by appointing the following committee : Theophil Speyser, Chairman ; Wm. J. Zirbes, Vice-Chairman ; Jacob Jung, Recording Secretary ; Philip Houck, Treasurer ; Jacob F. Berner, Philip Bommer, Charles Boller, B. Klingelhofer, E. W. Peseler, John G. Seeger, George Degen, W. H. Loew, Frederick Miller, Edward Eisele.

A financial canvass was at once started and \$600 soon pledged. Mr. Carl E. Wittwer, who was at that time just finishing his course at the Springfield Training School, was secured as Secretary, and began his service June 14, 1888.

Rooms were at once secured in the large hall on the third floor of the Scheu Block, corner of Genesee and Spring streets. These quarters provided the department with reading room, amusement room, class rooms, a large meeting hall, a parlor, and three bath rooms. The rooms were well lighted, and after they had been handsomely furnished, largely through the efforts of the Ladies' Auxiliary, they became very cheery and inviting. A formal opening was held September 12, 1888, at which time the rooms were crowded with interested friends, and addresses were delivered by Mr. Wm. H. Gratwick in English, and Rev. C. L. Schild and Rev. J. Kaechele in German.

On the first day of this month the first number of the *Vereinsstimmen* appeared and has since continued as the official organ of the department. From the first, the great ambition of the department was that it might own a well-equipped home of its own; towards this all efforts centered, and, indeed, it may be said that the early history of the department consists largely of the story of the struggle for this home. Mr. Olandt very early put his shoulder to the wheel and was in all the early stages of the movement the leading and inspiring spirit. In November, 1890, a building committee was appointed, consisting of the following men: B. Klingelhoef, Chairman; Philip Houck, Treasurer; Ph. Bommer, Louis Kempff, Wm. Gisel, Theophil Speyser, and Mr. Wittwer. Mr. Speyser a year later became Chairman of this committee and continued in that office until the building was occupied. The work of raising funds was actively pressed and within a short time the department was able to purchase a lot, 50 by 150, at the corner of Genesee and Davis streets, the price being \$6,000. The subscriptions continuing to increase, Mr. C. R. Percival, the architect who had planned the Mohawk Street building, was retained, and plans and specifications were prepared. But after this there came a wearying delay before sufficient payments had been made and pledges received to justify the association in proceeding to build. On March 14, 1893, the Committee of Management requested the Board of Directors to proceed with the work, and immediately thereafter contracts were signed and work begun.

On July 16, 1893, the corner stone was laid. His Honor, Mayor Charles F. Bishop, performed the ceremony, and the Rev. P. Kottler deliv-

ered the address ; short addresses were also delivered by Mr. Louis Kempff, President William H. Johnson, and Mr. Henry Bond ; Dr. D. B. Stumpf presided, and Mr. Speyser read a report of the Building Committee.

The building was practically finished in the winter of 1894-5, but it was difficult to procure funds for furnishing. At this juncture, General Secretary Squire came to the rescue and enlisted the helpfulness of the ladies in a number of American churches, whose timely aid made the final equipment of the building possible.

It was opened Sunday, September 29, 1895. On that day an hour of prayer in the early morning, with meetings for men and boys in the afternoon, opened the festive week which followed, all hearts turning gratefully and prayerfully to God, thus striking the proper keynote. The building was then thrown open to the public, Monday being contributors' day, and on Tuesday the pastors and business men were banqueted. Wednesday was the day of dedication. Rev. Dr. Otto Becher delivered the address ; Mr. Pascal P. Pratt, President of the Board of Trustees, handed the key of the building to Mr. Chas. Boller, the Chairman of the Building Committee, who turned it over to the Chairman of the German Department, Dr. D. B. Stumpf. A reception for ladies in the afternoon of Thursday was followed in the evening by one for the Young People's Societies of the German churches, the festivities coming to an end when the boys and young men took possession of the building on the afternoon and evening of Friday, October 4th.

The building of the German Department is very complete and finely adapted to its purpose ; it is more modern in arrangement and equipment than the present Central building and, especially in its physical department, is thoroughly satisfactory. The total cost of land and building was \$54,000.

Before the completion of the building for which he had worked so hard, Mr. Wittwer handed in his resignation as Secretary, and it was accepted in June, 1893. Mr. H. H. Lohans, who had been acting as assistant, was made Acting Secretary and so continued until December of the same year, when he was given leave of absence in order that he might attend the Springfield Training School for six months. During his absence, Mr. F. W. Godtfring was made Acting Secretary. Both during Mr. Lohans' absence and for some months after his return, Mr. Godtfring devoted himself almost exclusively to solicitation of subscriptions to the building fund and with remarkable success ; many thousands of dollars must be credited to his individual efforts. Mr. Lohans returned in July,



FRANK H. THATCHER,
Union Terminal.



EDWIN KETTLE,
East Buffalo.



WALTER F. INSKIP,
Depew.



FRED C. BROWN,
B, R. & P.

SECRETARIES OF RAILROAD DEPARTMENTS.

1894, and was at once made Department Secretary. He continued in that position with remarkable success until September, 1897, when Mr. Carl E. Wittwer, who had previously become assistant, was again made Secretary, as Mr. Lohans' successor. Mr. Wittwer again resigned and was again succeeded by Mr. Lohans, in November, 1899. In March, 1902, Mr. Lohans definitely determined to enter the ministry, and therefore again resigned and was succeeded by the present Secretary, Mr. Otto Retter, who had been for some years an assistant. During all these changes, Mr. F. W. Burkhardt has remained in the position of physical director and has brought his department up to a very high standard of excellence.

While the department remained in rented quarters the membership remained small, less than 200 ; but when the new building was occupied, it soared upward in a bewildering fashion. The sudden coming in of 700 new members nearly swamped the enterprise and was, perhaps, a misfortune. The number fell off over 300 the following year, but has since been climbing slowly upward, until this jubilee year it has reached 714, the highest point it has ever attained, excepting the boom year of 1895-6.

The department very soon after making a start in rented quarters found it impossible to do much more than lay foundations and prepare for the real work in its own building ; most of the department's energies went into the building project. In the present building its work has grown steadily in volume and excellence. It does not need to be described in detail, for it is like, in all essential respects, the work at the Central Department. The department has an unusually fine and very popular physical department—its basket ball team, which has not yet found its equal anywhere, has made it famous ; it has an excellent Junior Division and large emphasis is laid on the religious work in all its phases.

Last year the daily average of attendance at the rooms was 167 ; 486 members used the gymnasium ; there was a total attendance of 3,582 men and boys at the different sessions of six bible classes, and 1,535 attended other religious services.

Finances have always been especially troublesome at the German Department, but its friends are slowly increasing in numbers and liberality, and the outlook to-day is brighter than ever before. The budget showed a disbursement of \$5,921.70 last year.

DEPEW RAILROAD DEPARTMENT.

The sudden and rapid growth of the suburban railroad village of Depew, caused by the location there of the New York Central Machine

Shops and other large shops and factories, furnished a need and an opportunity which could not be neglected.

On July 31, 1893, a meeting was held, at the East Buffalo Department, of representatives of Depew and of the Buffalo Association. On November 27th following, another similar meeting was held in the Central Department building, at which it was determined to ask the Board to establish a railroad department at Depew. On Sunday afternoon, December 3, 1893, a meeting was held in the Grimesville station of the New York Central, located between Depew and Lancaster, for the purpose of discussing the matter of organization. A special train from Buffalo was placed at the disposal of the Buffalo men, and there were fifty men present in all, representing Buffalo, Depew, and Lancaster. One of the results of this meeting was a series of Sunday afternoon services held in the Grimesville station, which were continued for some time with considerable success.

On February 8, 1894, the Board, by resolution, formally provided for the founding of a department at Depew, and a little later President Blakeslee appointed the following as the first Committee of Management: Clinton L. Rossiter, Chairman; G. H. Hazleton, P. H. Ryan, C. Yeomans, W. D. Pond, James Macbeth, James Grundy, C. H. Bullis, C. H. Hogan, G. Burlingham. An appropriation of \$600 was made by the New York Central, and Mr. W. F. Inskip, a member of the East Buffalo Department, was employed as Secretary. Mr. Inskip still continues in office; he has done excellent work in bringing the department through its trying days of beginnings and has become individually a leading citizen and strong force for good in the community.

The Depew Improvement Company offered the free use of one of its houses and a suitable one was selected on Ellicott Road, just east of the New York Central Shops. The sum of \$600 was raised for equipment, Mr. Cornelius Vanderbilt contributing one-half the amount, and the house was comfortably furnished. It was ready for use January 1, 1895, but was not formally opened until February 14th, when the building was crowded to overflowing with men. Here the department remained for two years until its quarters became too small, when it moved into a larger and better building, which is also furnished rent free by the Depew Improvement Company. Here the department is very comfortably housed, having a large reading room, a parlor and three bath rooms on the first floor, and a gymnasium on the second floor. The library forms quite a feature of the work at Depew; it already numbers 2,200 volumes and is growing rapidly; 4,800 volumes were drawn last year.

The work at Depew resembles more nearly that of a general association and does not need to be especially described. It has 238 members; the average daily attendance is seventy-two; there are nineteen young men in the bible class and an average of forty at the Sunday service. Last year the department spent \$1,290.76. The following companies contributed: New York Central, \$600, also, coal, oil, and other supplies valued at \$150; Gould Coupler, \$50; Magnus Metal, \$50; Depew Improvement (rent of building), \$300.

STUDENT DEPARTMENT.

Every class of young men presents to the church seeking to reach and to help a problem different from that presented by any other class; thus the student class offers its peculiar problem, and it is, withal, one of vital and tremendous importance, for here are the leaders of the future, in science, politics, law, theology, statesmanship, and business. This class surely must be kept in line for Christian righteousness. So far as the problem relates to our colleges, the association feels that it has furnished the solution and has proven itself to be the best tool in the hands of the church for doing the work; but so far as it relates to the post-graduate schools in our great cities, the problem is not so near solution. These young men, fresh from farm and village or from undergraduate work, scattered about in the midst of the city and yet not part of it, without the solidarity or *esprit* born of college life and loyalty, present problems very serious and, at the same time, very difficult of solution. The association is giving the question very careful study at the hands of experts, and is slowly, but, it is believed, surely working toward a solution; certainly great progress has been made.

For many years, the Buffalo Association had made informal efforts, from time to time, by means of special receptions, special classes in the gymnasiums and elsewhere, special rates of membership and otherwise, to secure a hold on the 700 students in the University of Buffalo; but it was not until the spirit of metropolitan expansion had been fully caught and developed into progressive activity, under the wise leadership of Mr. Whitford, that any definite and permanent methods were adopted for this purpose. In the fall of 1900, the Board of Directors asked a committee, consisting of Dr. Eli H. Long, Dr. Willis G. Gregory, and Mr. Whitford, to investigate the situation and report a definite scheme. The committee, aided by Mr. Henry Wade Hicks, International Secretary for college



ERNEST H. BENNETT,
Assistant Secretary, Union Terminal.



LEROY A. HOWE,
Assistant Secretary, Union Terminal.



FRED WESTFALL,
Night Secretary, Union Terminal.



ARTHUR DUNLOP,
Assistant Secretary, Union Terminal.



HARRY C. MURPHY,
Assistant Secretary, East Buffalo.



ADELBERT W. CALKINS,
Membership Secretary, East Buffalo.



ROBERT ALLINGHAM,
Night Secretary, East Buffalo.



ROYAL MYERS,
Night Secretary, B. R. & P.

RAILROAD DEPARTMENT—ASSISTANT SECRETARIES.

work, did their work thoroughly, and on October 11, 1900, reported to the Board, recommending the beginning of a definite work. This report was adopted and the task of organization was vigorously pushed. Owing to peculiar conditions existing in this case, it was not considered wise to adopt the usual form of department organization, but, instead, the students themselves formed an organization with president and other officers, and an advisory committee was appointed largely from the faculties of the University, which has power to supervise and direct where necessary ; all subject, of course, to final control by the Board, here as everywhere. Mr. J. H. Hutchinson (medical) was elected the first President and Dr. Matthew D. Mann, of the Medical Faculty, has been from the start Chairman of the Advisory Committee ; the other members are Dr. Willis G. Gregory, Dr. E. H. Long, Dr. Wm. D. Jacob, President R. B. Adam, and Mr. A. H. Whitford.

In the fall of 1901 a house was rented at the corner of Main and North streets and furnished ; this has been kept open as a home and club house for the students. Rooms are rented and board furnished at a reasonable rate ; and the building has been given, so far as possible, all the appointments necessary to make it an attractive rendezvous to members of the association. It has been made the center of a Christian work among the students by the students themselves ; religious meetings are held, bible classes organized, and quiet but persistent effort made to encourage personal work by the members. The house has been, in its general management, under the immediate charge of Mr. Whitford, and in its domestic economy has been controlled by Mrs. Whitford, to whom very much of its success is owing.

ARMY DEPARTMENT.

Something has already been told concerning the work of the Army Committee on behalf of the soldiers and in aid of the Christian Commission during the Civil War. During the interval, between 1865 and 1898, sporadic attempts were made by the Buffalo Association to do something for the soldiers at Fort Porter, but nothing very definite was attempted. Immediately upon the declaration of war with Spain and the mobilization of an army which followed, the International Committee undertook a work among soldiers and sailors, which was carried on with marvelous success during the war, and is now achieving great and permanent results in a regularly organized work carried on at nearly 400 points in navy yards and army posts and wherever the soldiers of the Union have gone.

Buffalo did not fall behind in this army work, but immediately appointed an Army Committee, of which Mr. George R. Howard was Chairman, raised money in aid of the general work of the International Committee, and kept an association tent and secretary in the field with the Sixty-Fifth Regiment while it remained at Camp Alger. This tent was furnished with correspondence tables, games, magazines, and newspapers, a library sent by the Buffalo Public Library, an organ and hymn books. Some idea of the popularity of the tent may be gathered from the fact that the average daily attendance was over 600.

Since the close of the war never more than about 200 soldiers have been stationed at Fort Porter at any one time, but even that number furnishes material sufficient for a very useful work. In 1899, Mr. D. C. Warner, who was then a student at the Normal School, became very much interested in the soldiers and began to do what personal work among them he was able. General Secretary Whitford, very shortly thereafter, began to look over the ground preparatory to starting a department of the association, and very naturally came in touch with Mr. Warner.

Mr. Whitford found cordial approval of the project among the officers then at the Fort, procured permission to use a large and pleasant room in one of the barracks, and the effort was begun, with Mr. Warner giving part of his time to the work as Secretary in charge. In 1900, the work was formally erected into a department by the Board, with the following Committee of Management: Frank E. Sickels, Chairman; Col. L. B. Perry, H. S. Champlin, and A. P. Holly. Mr. Holly took Mr. Warner's place as Secretary at this time, giving the department one-half of his time.

The room has been redecorated and very attractively fitted up; furnished with a desk, tables, which are kept well supplied with current literature, bookshelves, plenty of comfortable chairs, and a piano. The following jubilee year figures will be found interesting: 200 soldiers stationed at Fort Porter; forty-one enrolled as members of the Y. M. C. A.; thirty-five in the night school; ten enrolled in bible class; thirty average attendance at weekly religious service; ninety average attendance at soldiers' entertainments; 100 use the Y. M. C. A. room daily.

BUFFALO, ROCHESTER & PITTSBURG RAILROAD DEPARTMENT.

This is the youngest child of the association and an interesting one. In its organization, it illustrates the national growth of associations by

railroad systems, which is becoming more and more an important factor in this department of the work.

In the spring of 1901, the Buffalo, Rochester & Pittsburg Railway having determined to equip its system with association centers wherever needed, Mr. John F. Moore, International Railroad Secretary, and Mr. Whitford, made a thorough investigation of conditions at the Buffalo Creek terminus of the railroad and reported conclusions to the company. As a result, the company agreed to give \$2,500 for a building and \$600 annually for current expenses, provided the men showed sufficient interest in contributing toward furnishing the building, and requested the Buffalo Association to make the enterprise a department of its work. Mr. Whitford, assisted by other secretaries, made a canvass among the employes and secured subscriptions from 115 men; the Board, thereupon, accepted the proposition of the company. The matter of building was at once taken up by a committee of the Board, of which Mr. A. E. Hedstrom was Chairman; the whole matter, with a check for \$2,500 included, having been turned over to the association by the company. The building is situated on ground leased by the company to the association near the yards at Buffalo Creek. It was dedicated, with simple and informal ceremonies, on January 21, 1902, a special train being run out from the Exchange Street station.

Mr. Fred C. Brown, who had been Assistant Secretary at Dubois, Pa., was secured by the association and placed in charge shortly before the opening of the building.

The department has a large reading and social room, a number of baths and a restaurant on the first floor, and several sleeping rooms on the second floor. The building and restaurant are open day and night, for men are coming and going in the yards at all hours.

The department has not been in existence long enough to have statistics, but there is every promise of a limited, but very useful, work.

President Adam has appointed the following Committee of Management: Arthur E. Hedstrom, Chairman; F. W. H. Becker, Frank E. Sickels, F. E. Skelton, and A. H. Whitford.

Here ends the story of the Young Men's Christian Association of Buffalo, made complete in all its many parts down to the close of the Jubilee Year, April 30, 1902. For the sake of brief review and comment, we have added another chapter, which will be short, if it possess no other virtue.

CHAPTER VII.

A WORD OF REVIEW AND ANOTHER OF PROPHECY.

IT IS fifty years since an unselfish desire in the heart of one young man bore its first fruitage in the founding of the Young Men's Christian Association of Buffalo. We have tried to show how the small things of then have grown into the great things of now, and we believe our readers have found the record one that need make no man ashamed. The little band of eleven men in the choir loft of Asbury Church has grown into a great brotherhood of 5,041 men ; the plain room on South Division Street has expanded into eight complete plants, ranging in size and equipment from the comfortable room in the barracks at Fort Porter to the great building on Mohawk Street, and is now about to flower into the magnificent structure whose pictured façade forms the frontispiece of this little book. The few chairs and tables contained in the South Division Street room have been multiplied and diversified until to-day the association owns property valued at more than half a million dollars ; the modest little expense budget of 1852, amounting to \$366.69, has swollen into a total budget of \$46,000 in 1902 ; the few papers, magazines, and books on the tables and shelves of the South Division Street room have grown into a vast and wonderful combination of methods for reaching, helping, uplifting, and saving men, such as no other institution in the community has developed. The occasional young man who entered the door of that first room has become a great body, numbering each day more than a regiment which passes over the hospitable thresholds of the associations, making a total of 475,960 visits last year.

Results that are spiritual cannot be measured or expressed in terms of arithmetic, but one cannot study the history of this association as we have studied it and not emerge with two strong convictions : first, that it has found favor in the sight of God, else it could never have prospered so largely ; and, second, that it has found favor in the sight of man, for

the great strength of the association for fifty years has been in the friends it has made — men that were, and are, strong, wise, upright ; if you read the names in this book, you have substantially read the roster of the highest and best life of the community. We do not hesitate to say that no other public institution in the city has so large and so fine a constituency as this. What the wisest citizens commend and God has blessed cannot be a thing without results.

We read history in vain if we do not learn its lessons. To our mind, the chief lesson of this history is that the work of the association lies in the future, not in the past. The things of the past and the present, great as they may be, are but God's index finger pointing out the path He would have us follow ; are but His voice saying unto His people, "Go forward."

The social and economic conditions of to-day are confronting the Church in our city with tremendous problems, at the heart of all of which stands man ; the Young Men's Christian Association of Buffalo is solving these problems by reaching and uplifting the man. It has won much success ; but it is only across the threshold, it has only made a beginning.

In the little space remaining, let us name some of the specific things of the future, things which we believe the association must and will have — it is only a question of "when" and "who."

Departments for general city work in the following sections : Upper Black Rock, Lower Black Rock, North Buffalo, Kensington, South Buffalo, Stony Point.

Departments for railroad work at the following points : West Seneca, for Lake Shore employés ; Sloan, for Lackawanna employés ; in vicinity of Buffalo Creek, for employés of three roads centering there.

A working man's institute on the east side, for the artizan class, combining club-house features, educational classes, including instruction in the trades, and physical training. Associations are conducting such institutes in other cities with great success.

A department near the depots with the usual association features, but giving the largest prominence to lodging and boarding, much after the plan made famous by the "Mills Hotel" in New York. This is also no original idea ; other associations are trying it with success.

Departments for work among the street railroad men. The association has achieved wonderful success in doing a work for steam railroad men ; has done it cheaper and better than the companies can do it themselves, and the companies have found it financially profitable to pay their

share of the expense ; why should not these things be equally true of street railroad men and companies ? To be sure, the conditions differ somewhat in detail, but so do the conditions surrounding steam railroad work at different points, and all are alike in essentials. The Brooklyn street railroad companies have already answered this query by making appropriations for association work among their men.

Lastly, in this matter of expansion, there comes the founding of departments for work among the industrial classes of all sorts—the foundry men, factory men, shopmen, furnace men, but a small fraction of whom would, after all, be reached by any of the enterprises we have suggested. Again there come queries similar to that we have asked concerning street railroads. The railroads support the railroad departments as a business proposition ; why should not other industrial employers support departments for their men, also as a business proposition ? It is a tempting discussion, upon which we cannot enter ; but we believe there can be, and will be, but one answer. Already the movement is gathering headway in other cities, and a great industrial work is one of the things the future has in store for the Buffalo Association.

For its best success and highest efficiency, the future should bring these things, also, namely :

An additional endowment of \$100,000 for the expenses of the Board of Directors in its work of supervision and extension.

An endowment of \$100,000 for the educational work at the Central Building, which is open to members of all departments.

An endowment of at least \$50,000 for the libraries of the association.

An endowment of \$25,000 for special religious work at the Central Department.

The sum of \$20,000 to pay off the mortgage indebtedness of the German Department.

How quickly the future will bring these things to the association depends on the energy and consecrated ambition of the active workers and the conscience and generosity of the people of our city.

Buffalo is destined to be a very great city ; its growing greatness adds year by year to the greatness of the Christian problem. What shall be the future of this city ? Shall it be swayed by the forces that make for righteousness ? Shall it be kept for the Master ? There can be but one

answer, and upon every man rests the burden of bringing it to pass. In this campaign the Church of Christ has no weapon whose temper and efficiency have been more thoroughly proven at the fighting line than the Young Men's Christian Association. If it remains true to its ideal, if it never forgets to fight in the name of Him whose name it bears, there lies before it a career of achievement, in winning and uplifting men, finer, grander, more divine, than many of its friends have ever dreamed of.

APPENDIX.

JUBILEE SERVICE

COMMEMORATING THE

FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

OF THE

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

OF THE CITY OF BUFFALO

AT THE

TECK THEATRE,

SUNDAY AFTERNOON, APRIL 27, 1902, 3.00 P. M.

PROGRAM.

ROBERT B. ADAM, PRESIDING.

- Voluntary, Association Orchestra.
Hymn — "Come, Thou Almighty King."
Scripture Reading, . . . Rev. Isaac W. Tryon, First President, 1852.
Prayer, Rev. Edward Bristol, President, 1862.
Selection, Knickerbocker Quartet.
Historical Sketch, Frank E. Sickels, Vice-President.
Address — "History and Growth of Association Work,"
Richard C. Morse, General Secretary International Committee.
Address — "The Association as an Investment,"
Joseph T. Alling, Rochester, N. Y.
Selection, Knickerbocker Quartet.
Address — "The Community's Appreciation,"
Rev. O. P. Gifford, D. D., Pastor Delaware Avenue Baptist Church.
Remarks, Robert B. Adam, President.
Hymn — "Onward, Christian Soldiers."
Benediction, Rev. R. V. Hunter, D. D.

The following cablegram from Sir George Williams of London, England, founder of the first Young Men's Christian Association, was read at the Jubilee Service: "Accept heartfelt thanks upon Jubilee of Buffalo Association. I greatly rejoice with you all. God abundantly bless and prosper you and your work."

THE BUFFALO YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

DEPARTMENT AND MEMBERSHIP STATEMENT.

METROPOLITAN PLAN OF ORGANIZATION, EFFECTED JUNE 3, 1890.

Department.	Organized.	Paid Membership, May 1, 1902.
Central,	April 26, 1852,	2,422
Union Terminal Railroad,	February, 1880,	403
East Buffalo Railroad,	March 8, 1888,	1,166
German,	June 5, 1888,	714
Depew Railroad,	October 22, 1894,	238
Army,	July, 1900,	41
Student,	October 18, 1900,	35
B., R. & P. Railroad,	January 1, 1902,	22
Total Paid Membership, May 1, 1902,		5,041

FIFTH LARGEST ASSOCIATION IN THE WORLD.

LOCATION OF THE ASSOCIATION DURING FIFTY YEARS.

- 1852-1853.— South Division, Ellicott Square Building site.
1853-1855.— Odeon Hall, northwest corner Main and Mohawk streets.
1855-1859.— Kremlin Hall, southeast corner Eagle and Pearl streets.
1859-1865.— Arcade Building, southeast corner Main and Clinton streets.
1865-1869.— Southeast corner Main and Eagle streets, Iroquois Hotel site.
1869-1871.— Over 302 Main Street.
1871-1875.— Phelps' Block, 319 Main Street, over Riegel's Clothing Store.
1875-1878.— Over 345 Main Street, northeast corner Main and North Division streets.
1878-1883.— Old Court House, 50 Clinton Street. (Central Department.)
1883-1902.— Association Building, 19 West Mohawk Street. (Central Department.)

BEQUESTS TO THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION OF THE CITY OF BUFFALO.

1878—Jerome Pierce,	\$ 2,500.00
1888—Caroline C. Fillmore,	1,680.00
1888—George Howard,	10,000.00
1888—Merwin S. Hawley,	2,000.00
1889—Lavinia Austin,	5,000.00
1890—Mary P. Burt,	573.00
1895—Eric L. Hedstrom,	3,000.00
1895—David S. Ingalls,	65,693.81
1898—William R. Taylor,	7,931.95
1899—Clementine L. Forbes,	500.00
1901—Theodore D. Barnum,	200.00

All bequests are invested in the permanent fund.

FORM OF BEQUEST.

I give and bequeath to the Young Men's Christian Association of Buffalo, N. Y., the sum of dollars, and the receipt of the Treasurer of the Board of Trustees thereof shall be a sufficient discharge to my executors for the same.

The Board of Directors and Board of Trustees of the Buffalo Young Men's Christian Association would respectfully direct the attention of Buffalo's public-spirited citizens to the greatly needed additional endowment, by bequest or subscription, to the permanent fund of the institution, which they have been providentially called upon to manage.

PROPERTY AND ENDOWMENT STATEMENT.

PROPERTY :

Central Department Building,	value, \$150,000
German Department Building,	" 50,000
East Buffalo Department Building,	" 15,000
B., R. & P. Department Building,	" 3,000
	<hr/>
	\$218,000
Indebtedness on German Department Building,	24,500
	<hr/>
Net value of buildings,	\$193,500

ENDOWMENT :

Equity in building, 446 Main Street,	\$70,000
First mortgages,	14,800
Bonds,	5,000
Investment, 403 Monroe Street,	1,025
Cash on hand,	8,754
	<hr/>
	99,579
Subscriptions available for new building,	225,000
	<hr/>
Total assets,	\$518,079

THE ORGANIZATION

OF THE

BUFFALO YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

THE JUBILEE YEAR, 1902.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

R. B. ADAM, President;	F. E. SICKELS, Vice President;	
J. J. McWILLIAMS, Treasurer;	F. W. H. BECKER, Recording Secretary;	
J. I. PRENTISS,	W. A. JOYCE.	S. S. KINGSLEY.
A. E. HEDSTROM,	T. SPEYSER,	G. R. HOWARD,
		J. W. ROBINSON.
		J. H. DANIELS, M. D.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

P. P. PRATT, President;		
J. J. McWILLIAMS, Treas.,	S. M. CLEMENT,	W. H. WALKER,
J. W. ROBINSON,	R. B. ADAM,	W. A. ROGERS.
		R. R. HEFFORD.
General Secretary, A. H. WHITFORD.		

COMMITTEES OF MANAGEMENT.

Central Department.

F. M. HAYES, M. D., Chairman;	S. N. McWILLIAMS, Treasurer;	
HORACE REED,	S. S. KINGSLEY,	T. C. FRENYEAR,
W. H. COLLINS,	J. C. BOWEN,	R. B. ADAM, Jr.,
W. A. JOYCE,	E. C. NEAL,	E. M. MCBRIER,
		F. S. FOSDICK.

German Department.

T. SPEYSER, Chairman;	C. P. HENN, Treasurer;	
D. B. STUMPF, M. D.,	C. WERNER,	C. J. MEYER.
E. O. FISCHER,	W. KIPPUR,	J. KEPPEL.
L. KEMPF,	P. H. SCHABACKER,	N. W. BODENBENDER, M. D.,
M. J. CHEMNITZ,	F. C. GRAM, M. D.,	H. STECK.
		J. MCKAY.
OTTO RETTER, Secretary.		

Student Department.

M. D. MANN, M. D., Chairman;	W. G. GREGORY, M. D., Treasurer;	
E. H. LONG, M. D.,	W. C. JACOBS, D. D. S.,	A. H. WHITFORD.

Army Department.

F. E. SICKELS, Chairman;	H. C. CHAMPLIN, Treasurer;	L. B. PERRY.
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Union Terminal Railroad Department.

C. H. SEYMOUR, Chairman;	GEO. HUNTINGDON, Treasurer;	
D. L. TUTTLE,	T. W. NILES,	A. E. ROBBINS.
J. C. POLLOCK,	J. P. BRADFIELD,	L. H. VAN ALLEN,
J. B. MCCALL,	W. W. FRYE,	G. R. LAYHER,
E. N. BLOOD,	J. R. PETRIE,	G. W. CREIGHTON,
	F. H. THATCHER, Secretary.	
		H. M. BROWN.

East Buffalo Railroad Department.

E. A. BENSON, Chairman;	F. E. DANCE, Treasurer;	
H. H. PERKINS,	AMOS GOULD,	J. P. BRADFIELD,
J. D. BOGARDUS,	H. F. SHATTUCK,	F. W. EVERETT.
J. MACBETH,	J. M. PARMATIER,	H. E. BENSON.
JOHN TRUE,	C. W. FISHER,	C. L. CARNEGIE.
	EDWIN KETTLE, Secretary.	
		H. M. EVES.

Depew Railroad Department.

JOHN HOWARD, Chairman;	J. O. GOULD, Treasurer;	
E. M. HEDLEY,	D. R. STRATTON, M. D.,	P. H. RYAN,
	W. F. INSKIP, Secretary.	E. J. HENNESSEY.

B., R. & P. Railroad Department.

A. E. HEDSTROM, Chairman;	F. W. H. BECKER, Treasurer;	
F. E. SICKELS,	J. E. SKELTON,	A. H. WHITFORD.
	F. C. BROWN, Secretary.	

OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR FIFTY YEARS.

(P.) President. (V. P.) Vice President. (R. S.) Recording Secretary. (T.) Treasurer.

- 1852. I. C. Tryon, P.; N. A. Halbert, P.; E. A. Swan, V. P.; G. W. Perkins, R. S.; C. K. Remington, T.
- 1853. N. A. Halbert, P.; E. A. Swan, V. P.; A. R. Wright, R. S.; Jesse Clement, T.
- 1854. N. A. Halbert, P.; Dr. Sandford Eastman, V. P.; Wm. Hersee, R. S.; G. W. Perkins, T.
- 1855. Jesse Clement, P.; S. S. Guthrie, V. P.; Wm. Hersee, R. S.; Fred'k Gridley, T.
- 1856. S. S. Guthrie, P.; W. M. Gray, V. P.; Morse Burtis, R. S.; Fred'k Gridley, T.
- 1857. P. P. Pratt, P.; Oscar Cobb, V. P.; John F. Chard, R. S.; Fred'k Gridley, T.
- 1858. E. A. Swan, P.; Wm. M. Gray, V. P.; E. Chas. Parker, R. S.; Thos. G. Parsons, T.
- 1859. John D. Hill, P.; Edward D. Bristol, V. P.; Myron H. Clark, R. S.; Thos. G. Parsons, T.
- 1860. John D. Hill, P.; Abner H. Bryant, V. P.; C. B. Armstrong, R. S.; Thos. G. Parsons, T.
- 1861. John D. Hill, P.; Wm. C. Bryant, V. P.; Lyman R. Casey, R. S.; Thos. G. Parsons, T.
- 1862. Edward Bristol, P.; F. P. Wood, V. P.; J. E. Gilbert, R. S.; L. R. Casey, T.
- 1863. Fred'k Gridley, P.; A. R. Wright, V. P.; A. L. Lothridge, R. S.; L. R. Casey, T.
- 1864. Seth Clark, P.; Rev. F. J. Ernst, V. P.; E. W. Eames, R. S.; A. L. Lothridge, T.
- 1865. Seth Clark, P.; F. W. Breed, V. P.; F. W. Taylor, R. S.; A. L. Lothridge, T.
- 1866. Seth Clark, P.; F. W. Breed, V. P.; Morse Burtis, R. S.; Julius Walker, T.
- 1867. Seth Clark, P.; Joseph Guild, V. P.; W. H. Beach, R. S.; Julius Walker, T.
- 1868. P. J. Ferris, P.; Ray T. Spencer, V. P.; E. C. Pattison, R. S.; Julius Walker, T.
- 1869. R. K. Noye, P.; M. E. E. Hazard, V. P.; F. D. Locke, R. S.; Wm. Woltge, T.
- 1870. R. K. Noye, P.; F. L. Danforth, V. P.; E. L. Hawley, R. S.; T. D. Barnum, T.
- 1871. E. L. Hedstrom, P.; John H. Brown, V. P.; A. B. Neill, R. S.; Alfred Haines, T.
- 1872. E. L. Hedstrom, P.; J. L. Alberger, V. P.; A. B. Neill, R. S.; S. W. Warren, T.
- 1873. E. L. Hedstrom, P.; J. L. Alberger, V. P.; W. C. Cornwell, R. S.; S. W. Warren, T.
- 1874. E. L. Hedstrom, P.; J. L. Alberger, V. P.; I. G. Jenkins, R. S.; S. W. Warren, T.
- 1875. E. L. Hedstrom, P.; H. H. Otis, V. P.; J. H. Prescott, R. S.; H. E. Perrine, T.
- 1876. Emmor Haines, P.; H. H. Otis, V. P.; J. H. Prescott, R. S.; H. E. Perrine, T.

1877. W. W. Brown, P.; Rev. L. Van Bokelen, V. P.; Geo. C. Sweet, R. S.; Wm. Woltge, T.
1878. Geo. N. Pierce, P.; Rev. L. Van Bokelen, V. P.; Geo. C. Sweet, R. S.; Wm. Woltge, T.
1879. C. B. Armstrong, P.; Rev. W. M. Hughes, V. P.; R. K. Strickland, R. S.; R. Porter Lee, T.
1880. } N. G. Benedict, P.; Rev. W. M. Hughes, V. P.; R. K. Strickland, R. S.; R.
1881. } Porter Lee, T.
1882. N. G. Benedict, P.; Rev. W. M. Hughes, V. P.; R. K. Strickland, R. S.; F. A. Board, T.
1883. N. G. Benedict, P.; R. B. Adam, V. P.; R. K. Strickland, R. S.; Chas. N. Armstrong, T.
1884. N. G. Benedict, P.; S. E. Adams, V. P.; R. K. Strickland, R. S.; Chas. N. Armstrong, T.
1885. } S. E. Adams, P.; H. D. Blakeslee, V. P.; R. K. Strickland, R. S.; W. H. D.
1886. } Barr, T.
1887. } W. H. Gratwick, P.; J. J. McWilliams, V. P.; J. L. Slater, R. S.; W. H. D.
1888. } Barr, T.
1889. J. J. McWilliams, P.; S. S. Kingsley, V. P.; S. L. Graves, R. S.; H. J. Wilkes, T.
1890. } J. J. McWilliams, P.; H. D. Blakeslee, V. P.; S. L. Graves, R. S.; W. H. John-
1891. } son, T.
1892. W. H. Johnson, P.; C. M. Underhill, V. P.; S. L. Graves, R. S.; J. J. Albright, T.
1893. W. H. Johnson, P.; C. M. Underhill, V. P.; S. L. Graves, R. S.; Spencer Kellogg, T.
1894. }
1895. } H. D. Blakeslee, P.; F. E. Sickels, V. P.; S. L. Graves, R. S.; W. H. Johnson, T.
1896. }
1897. }
1898. } R. B. Adam, P.; F. E. Sickels, V. P.; S. L. Graves, R. S.; J. J. McWilliams, T.
1899. }
1900. }
1901. } R. B. Adam, P.; F. E. Sickels, V. P.; F. W. H. Becker, R. S.; J. J. McWilliams, T.
1902. }

LIST OF MEN WHO HAVE BEEN EMPLOYED AS

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION,

1852-1902.

[List includes men who served at least a year, also present officers employed within the last year.]

Department abbreviations: (U. T.) Union Terminal. (E. B.) East Buffalo. (D) Depew. (B., R. & P.) Buffalo, Rochester & Pittsburg. All without abbreviations employed by the Central Department.

Allard, Jas. E.,	Assistant Secretary,	1891-1893
Adair, W. W.,	Assistant Secretary, E. B.,	1892-1894
Adams, W. H.,	Assistant Secretary, E. B.,	1893-1895
Allingham, David,	Assistant Secretary, E. B.,	1898-1890
Allingham, Robert,	Assistant Secretary, E. B.,	1899—
Anderson, Fred. N.,	Assistant Physical Director,	1899-1900
Brown, Ellen, Miss,	Boys' Secretary,	1886—
Barrett, George W.,	Assistant Physical Director,	1894-1895
Burkhardt, F. W.,	Physical Director, G.,	1895—
Boll, W. C.,	Assistant Secretary, G.,	1897-1899
Brown, H. B.,	Librarian,	1897-1900
Bennett, E. A.,	Assistant Secretary, U. T.,	1901—
Brown, Fred. C.,	Secretary, B., R. & P.,	1902—
Cook, Rev. P. J.,	City Missionary,	1865-1870
Carruthers, George,	Librarian,	1895-1897
Cameron, J. Y.,	Physical Director,	1899—
Dickson, H. D.,	Assistant Secretary,	1887-1888
Donnigan, Ed.,	Assistant Secretary, U. T.,	1887-1893
Dickson, H. D.,	Secretary,	1891-1898
Durand, W. B.,	Physical Director,	1895-1899
Dickson, A. B.,	Assistant Secretary,	1897-1898
Eaves, Charles,	Assistant Secretary, U. T.,	1885-1887
Erlenbach, F. M.,	Assistant Secretary,	1888-1893
Frank, Leslie F.,	Assistant Secretary,	1893-1895
Gray, David,	Librarian,	1855-1859
Gordon, David A.,	Assistant Secretary,	1880-1885
Godtfriing, F. W.,	Financial Secretary, G.,	1894-1897
Godbold, W. H.,	Assistant Physical Director,	1898-1899
Garry, S. H.,	Assistant Secretary,	1901—
Huie, H. E.,	Assistant Secretary, E. B.,	1888-1890
Hess, Geo. W.,	Physical Director,	1891-1895
Hirsch, W. F.,	Associate Secretary,	1892—
Haag, John A.,	Assistant Secretary, E. B.,	1894-1896
Harris, Edwin A.,	Assistant Secretary, E. B.,	1895-1896
Howe, Lee A.,	Assistant Secretary, U. T.,	1895-1897
House, C. A.,	Assistant Secretary, U. T.,	1897-1898
Harter, H. C.,	Business Secretary,	1898—
Holly, A. P.,	Assistant Secretary,	1899-1902
Howe, Leroy A.,	Assistant Secretary, U. T.,	1899—
Inskip, Walter F.,	Secretary, Depew,	1894—
Inman, R. I.,	Assistant Secretary, U. T.,	1895-1896

Jenkins, Isaac G.,	General Secretary,	1870-1877
Kettle, Edwin,	Secretary, E. B.,	1889—
Klughery, W. L.,	Assistant Secretary, E. B.,	1898-1900
Luce, George W.,	Secretary, U. T.,	1880-1884
Lohans, H. H.,	Assistant Secretary, G.,	1893-1895
Lohans, H. H.,	Secretary, G.,	1899-1902
Lawrence, E. Henry,	Assistant Secretary,	1895-1897
Lysette, P. Albert,	Assistant Secretary, U. T.,	1896-1898
Lohans, H. H.,	Secretary, G.,	1899-1902
Leighbody, Glenn W.,	Librarian,	1900-1901
Lewis, W. E.,	Assistant Physical Director,	1900—
Minor, D. E.,	Assistant Secretary, U. T.,	1881-1882
Mier, Adolph,	Physical Director,	1886-1889
Muntz, John,	Assistant Secretary, U. T.,	1888-1889
Muntz, Emanuel,	Physical Director,	1889-1891
Merritt, Allen E.,	Assistant Secretary, E. B.,	1890-1892
Mogge, E. L.,	Assistant Secretary, U. T.,	1892-1893
Murphy, H. J.,	Assistant Secretary, E. B.,	1901-1902
Myers, Royal,	Assistant Secretary, B., R. & P.,	1902—
Nichols, W. C.,	Assistant Secretary,	1885-1889
Pfeiffer, Aug.,	Assistant Secretary, U. T.,	1884-1885
Peugeot, E. P.,	Assistant Secretary, U. T.,	1882-1884
Putnam, E. A.,	Membership Secretary,	1891—
Quick, Roy,	Assistant Secretary,	1895-1896
Rhodes, H. E.,	Secretary, E. B.,	1888-1889
Richardson, W. H.,	Assistant Physical Director,	1896-1898
Reily, C. J.,	Assistant Secretary, E. B.,	1899-1901
Retter, Otto,	Assistant Secretary, G.,	1899-1902
Retter, Otto,	Secretary, G.,	1902—
Rouse, Elmer,	Assistant Secretary, U. T.,	1893-1895
Steinaker, John,	General Secretary,	1877-1879
Squire, John B.,	General Secretary,	1880-1891
Smith, Edwin K.,	Assistant Secretary, U. T.,	1893-1894
Shepard, Will C.,	Assistant Secretary, U. T.,	1892-1893
Spiller, C. H.,	Assistant Secretary, U. T.,	1892-1894
Starkey, Fred. R.,	Assistant Secretary,	1900—
Simon, H. E. W.,	Assistant Secretary, G.,	1902—
Thatcher, F. H.,	Secretary, U. T.,	1884—
Townsend, Henry A.,	Assistant Secretary,	1885-1886
Truesdell, A. L.,	Assistant Secretary,	1895-1897
Van Scoter, W. B.,	Librarian,	1901—
Wittwer, Carl E.,	Secretary, G.,	1888-1893
Wittwer, Carl E.,	Assistant Secretary, G.,	1896-1897
Wardell, H. C.,	Assistant Secretary, E. B.,	1896-1897
Wittwer, Carl E.,	Secretary, G.,	1897-1899
Walker, H. E.,	Assistant Secretary, U. T.,	1898-1899
Webb, Roland,	Assistant Secretary, U. T.,	1898-1900
Wilkie, W. J.,	Membership Secretary, E. B.,	1898-1901
Whitford, A. H.,	General Secretary,	1898—
Westfall, Fred.,	Assistant Secretary, U. T.,	1899—
Whitney, Guy B.,	Membership Secretary, E. B.,	1902—

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR FIFTY YEARS.

1852-1902.

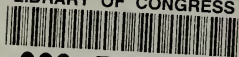
Atkins, M. R.....	'54-55	Champlin, O. H. P.....	'52-54, 58, 60	Francis, Wm. C.....	'82
Armstrong, C. B.....	'59-60, 61, 63, 69-70, 78-82	Clark, Seth.....	'52, 64-68	Fralick, F. G.....	'84
Alberger, S. L.....	'72-74	Clement, Jesse.....	'53-57	Guthrie, S. S.....	'55-65
Adam, R. B.....	'79-85, 91-02	Cobb, Oscar.....	'54-57	Gridley, Fred'k.....	'55, 63, 67
Adams, S. E.....	'80-92	Cowing, E. H.....	'55	Gray, Wm. M.....	'58
Armstrong, Chas. N.....	'83-86	Chard, Jas. F.....	'56-57	Gray, David.....	'59-60
Albright, J. J.....	'92-93	Clark, Myron H.....	'58-59	Guild, J.....	'67
Bull, D. B.....	'52	Casey, Lyman R.....	'61-63	Gardner, Wm. H.....	'68, 73-74
Baldwin, E. J.....	'53	Comstock, M. L.....	'61, 73-74	Gates, L. S.....	'74-77
Brayman, J. O.....	'53-54	Cook, P. G.....	'68-69	Gratwick, W. H.....	'82-98
Bryant, I. F.....	'54	Cornwell, W. C.....	'73	Graves, G. S.....	'89-90
Beals, E. P.....	'55, 58	Chester, Thos.....	'75-77	Graves, S. L.....	'89-91
Bryant, Abner H.....	'55-57, 60	Cooke, C. A.....	'77	Gram, Dr. F. C.....	'96-97
Blanchard, Amos.....	'56-57	Coppins, F. T.....	'82-86		
Bowen, Dennis.....	'56-57	Clement, S. M., Jr.....	'87-88		
Bristol, Edward.....	'59-60, 62, 67, 69	Campbell, Jos.....	'93-95	Halbert, N. A.....	'52-54
Benson, D. D.....	'59	Dudley, Edmund.....	'59	Huntley, W. D.....	'52
Bryant, W. C.....	'60-63	Dudley, Fred.....	'62	Hawley, J. S.....	'53
Bradford, W. R.....	'61, 66	Dennis, J. N.....	'64	Hersee, Wm.....	'54-55
Bixby, J. W.....	'62-63	Dorris, J. A.....	'65-66	Hill, John D.....	'56-61
Box, H. W.....	'64-65	Dyer, H. F.....	'65	Hale, Henry H.....	'59-60
Breed, F. W.....	'64-68	Draper, O. H.....	'66	Hopkins, Nelson.....	'63
Burtis, Morse.....	'66	Davis, H. J.....	'67	Horton, C. M.....	'64-68
Borman, Thos.....	'66	Davis, A. J.....	'68	Hazard, M. E. E.....	'69
Benson, John.....	'66	Danforth, F. L.....	'69-71, 73	Hubbell, Lyman.....	'69-72
Breed, W. H.....	'67	Duncan, John.....	'77	Hedstrom, E. L.....	'70-77
Brown, David E.....	'68, 71	Darrow, H. G.....	'79-80	Hawley, E. S.....	'70
Barnum, T. D.....	'69-70	Danforth, J. W.....	'79	Haines, A.....	'71
Brown, J. H.....	'71, 73-74	De Groat, H. C.....	'85-86	Humason, Geo.....	'71
Beals, E. P.....	'73	Dabney, C. T.....	'95	Hoole, A. J.....	'72-74
Burdick, O. C.....	'75	Daniels, Dr. J. H.....	'99—	Holt, O. H.....	'73-76
Brown, W. W.....	'77			Holland, Nelson.....	'77
Benedict, N. G.....	'79-92	Eastman, Dr. Sanford,	'54-55, 58	Hughes, Rev. W. M.....	'79-80
Brooks, M.....	'79	Ernst, Rev. J. F.....	'63-64	Hodge, F. A.....	'79-80
Brundage, C. G.....	'80	Eames, E. W.....	'64	Humble, John.....	'82-83
Bowen, W. H. H.....	'80	Eddy, J. F.....	'69	Hayes, Edmund.....	'84-85, 91
Board, F. A.....	'82-83, 96-00	Enos, G. T.....	'75-76	Hamlin, C. W.....	'89-90
Blakeslee, H. D.....	'82-97	Emerson, H. P.....	'89-90	Howland, Henry R.....	'91
Barr, W. H. D.....	'84-88			Howard, Geo. R.....	'95—
Bissell, T. A.....	'90-95	Fobes, W. D.....	'53	Haselton, G. H.....	'98-00
Bond, Henry.....	'97-00	Fisher, Wm. P.....	'58-59	Hedstrom, A. E.....	'99—
Benson, E. A.....	'95—	Fosdick, J. S.....	'62-63	Hayes, Dr. F. M.....	'01—
Becker, F. W. H.....	'00—	French, W. L.....	'62	Howard, John.....	'02—
		Ferris, P. J.....	'66-68, 72		
		Fayfield, Geo. L.....	'79-80	Johnson, Jas. M.....	'58-59
				Johnson, Robert.....	'62

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